



Daily Report

Sub-Saharan Africa

**FBIS-AFR-89-210
Wednesday
1 November 1989**

Daily Report

Sub-Saharan Africa

FBIS-AFR-89-210

CONTENTS

1 November 1989

INTER-AFRICAN AFFAIRS

Minisummit on Angola Ends in Yamoussoukro 30 Oct [Libreville Africa No 1]	1
Leaders Support Mobutu [Luanda Radio]	1
Leaders Depart [Abidjan Radio]	1
Houphouet-Boigny Relationship With Mobutu Viewed [AFP]	1

CENTRAL AFRICA

Cameroon

President Denies Negotiating With Former Leader [Yaounde Radio]	3
Biya Returns From Private Visit to Europe [Yaounde Radio]	3

Chad

LE MONDE on Army, Rebel Clashes in Sudan [Paris 28 Oct]	3
---	---

Equatorial Guinea

Mbasogo, USSR Ambassador Discuss Cooperation [Malabo Radio]	3
---	---

Gabon

Intelsat IV Satellite Launching Monitored [AFP]	4
---	---

Zaire

President Mobutu Sends Message to Angolan Leader [AFP]	4
--	---

EAST AFRICA

Ethiopia

Foreign Minister Summons Sudanese Diplomat [AFP]	5
President Mengistu Speaks on War Effort 30 Oct [Addis Ababa Radio]	5
Warns Rebels 'To Withdraw' [Addis Ababa Radio]	7
Further on Address to Shengo [AFP]	7
Shengo Passes Plan for Dealing With Rebels [Addis Ababa Radio]	8
WPE Issues War Resolution [Addis Ababa Radio]	8
More on War Resolutions [Voice of Tigray Revolution]	9
President Mengistu Addresses Shengo 31 Oct [Addis Ababa Radio]	9
Italian Foreign Ministry: Talks To Open 4 Nov [AFP]	10
Further Reportage on Fighting Activity	11
Kuta Ber Recaptured From Rebels [Addis Ababa Radio]	11
Mekele Claimed Bombed 29 Oct [Voice of Tigray Revolution]	11
EPLF Summons Eritrean Youth To Join [Voice of Eritrean Broad Masses]	11
Oromos Charge Amhara Rulers With Supremacy [Voice of Oromo Liberation]	11

Somalia

Rebels Protest Uganda's Treatment of Refugees [Radio of Somali National Movement]	12
---	----

REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Government: SWAPO Could Endanger Namibia Peace [SAPA]	13
Arrangements Set To Move Voters to Namibian Polls [SAPA]	13

Mata-Mata Post at Namibia Border To Close 10 Jan [SAPA]	14
Pik Botha Discusses De Klerk Ivory Coast Visit [SAPA]	14
Ex-Detainee Hammond Says 'Abducted' by Frelimo [SAPA]	14
Police Head Denies Officers To Resign [SAPA]	15
Ministers Meet With Visitng EC Parliamentarians [Johannesburg TV]	15
Helen Suzman Decorated by UK's Queen Elizabeth [SAPA]	16
Trade With Neighboring States Increases [THE STAR 1 Nov]	16
Finance Minister Announces New R2 Coin [SAPA]	16
31 Oct Press Review on Current Problems, Issues [THE STAR, etc.]	17
1 Nov Press Review [THE CITIZEN, etc.]	19

SOUTHERN AFRICA

Angola

Correspondent Views Ivorian Talks on Peace [BBC]	21
Ministers Meet European Parliamentarians 31 Oct [Luanda Radio]	21

Mozambique

'Bandits' Reportedly Kill 20 Civilians 31 Oct [Maputo Radio]	22
--	----

Namibia

Pienaar Confirms Koevoet Unit Disbanded 30 Oct [SAPA]	22
Pienaar Denies 'Disinformation' Claims [Johannesburg SUNDAY STAR 22 Oct]	22
DIE REPUBLIKEIN Reporter Dies in Shooting [Johannesburg SAPA]	24

Zambia

Kaunda Returns From Ivory Coast 31 Oct [Lusaka Radio]	24
---	----

Zimbabwe

Mugabe Working To Complete ZANU-ZAPU Merger [Johannesburg International]	24
House of Assembly Adjourns; No Ministers Present [Johannesburg SAPA]	24

WEST AFRICA

Ghana

40 Electoral Commissioners Leave for Namibia Duty [Accra Radio]	25
Joint Friendship Society With USSR Signs Accord [Accra Radio]	25
Cooperation Pact Signed by USSR Deputy Minister [Accra Radio]	25

Liberia

Taiwan To Take Over PRC Projects in Country [Monrovia Radio ELWA]	25
Government To Repay PRC Loans [Monrovia Radio ELWA]	25
Vice President Returns From Taipei, Comments [Monrovia Radio ELWA]	26

Mali

Information Minister Meets Palestinian Envoy [Bamako Radio]	26
---	----

Nigeria

Ferry Sinks in Akwa Ibom; 200 Feared Drowned [BBC]	26
Chief of General Staff Returns From Malaysia [Lagos Radio]	27

Minisummit on Angola Ends in Yamoussoukro 30 Oct

*AB3110104489 Libreville Africa No 1 in French
0730 GMT 31 Oct 89*

[Text] The Yamoussoukro minisummit in Ivory Coast, on the Angolan issue, which began yesterday ended the same day. It brought together Felix Houphouet-Boigny of the Ivory Coast, Omar Bongo of Gabon, Kenneth Kaunda of Zambia, and Manuel Pinto da Costa of Sao Tome. This minisummit basically enabled the three visiting heads of state, who are members of the Group of Eight handling the issue, to brief the Ivorian head of state on the Angolan peace process. Our special envoy, Raphael Mbadinga, reports.

[Begin Mbadinga recording] The discussions were very heated on certain points, especially the question of integrating the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola, UNITA, into the ruling Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola, MPLA, and the sharing of the cake between Jonas Savimbi and Eduardo dos Santos. It may thus be said that even though the summit was successfully organized one cannot help thinking that there were stumbling blocks. The first reason is that no date was fixed for the Libreville summit, and the second reason is that no one could give the assurance that Jonas Savimbi would be in Libreville to sign the cease-fire agreement which, in our eyes appears, today, to be the real test of sincerity for Savimbi and Dos Santos in this conflict between Angolans.

Next, the meeting of heads of state in Yamoussoukro denied the existence of any misunderstanding between Mobutu Sese Seko of Zaire and the Ivorian leader, Houphouet-Boigny. The role of the Group of Eight, aided by Ivory Coast, is auxiliary to Mobutu's task which is to reconcile the warring brothers, the Yamoussoukro summit stated. [end recording]

Leaders Support Mobutu

*MB3111202189 Luanda Domestic Service
in Portuguese 1900 GMT 31 Oct 89*

[Text] The presidents of Ivory Coast, Gabon, Sao Tome and Principe, and Zambia have reaffirmed that Zairian head of state Mobutu Sese Seko should continue as mediator in the Angolan peace process. The presidents of these countries met in Yamoussoukro yesterday at a minisummit centered on the Angolan peace process. Their discussions were described as positive.

The Ivory Coast meeting also served as a preparatory meeting for the summit of the eight African leaders seeking peace in Angola soon to be held in Gabon. An ANGOP dispatch points out that Ivory Coast President Felix Houphouet-Boigny has denied reports of any kind of a misunderstanding with President Mobutu Sese Seko. President Houphouet-Boigny expressed satisfaction that eight heads of state from central and southern Africa have chosen three of their number to brief him on the process to end the war in Angola.

In turn, the Zambian head of state said that although there was no final communique, the meeting made considerable progress which will be felt after contacts with other members of the Group of Eight.

Leaders Depart

*AB3110211389 Abidjan Domestic Service in French
1930 GMT 31 Oct 89*

[Text] The heads of state of Zambia, Gabon, and Sao Tome and Principe who came to participate in the minisummit of Yamoussoukro on Angola have left today. Presidents Kenneth Kaunda and Pinto da Costa left Yamoussoukro this morning. As for the Gabonese head of state, Mr Omar Bongo, he returned to his country this afternoon shortly before 1400 GMT.

At the end of the summit, there was a press conference addressed jointly by the four heads of state. In the course of the press conference, President Felix Houphouet-Boigny announced that in December this year the South African president, Mr Frederick de Klerk, will visit Ivory Coast.

Houphouet-Boigny Relationship With Mobutu Viewed

*AB3110165789 Paris AFP in French 1137 GMT
31 Oct 89*

[By Christian Spillmann]

[Text] Yamoussoukro, 31 Oct (AFP)—Ivory Coast yesterday officially declined to assume the mediation role that some had wanted it to play in the search for a solution to the Angolan conflict, preferring that of adviser, which is more discreet and more convenient to the personality of President Felix Houphouet-Boigny.

Seven countries—Congo, Gabon, Mozambique, Sao Tome and Principe, Zaire, Zambia, and Zimbabwe—together with Angola, for several months now have been searching for a peaceful solution to the internal conflict which has existed for 14 years now. Their action is far advanced and Ivory Coast will gain nothing by imposing itself on them now.

The Ivorian president was very explicit on this issue: "The Group of Eight will not become the group of nine. It remains the Group of Eight," he affirmed during a news conference given last night at the end of a closed-door meeting which lasted more than 3 hours, and which brought together heads of state of Zambia, Gabon, and Sao Tome and Principe, in his hometown of Yamoussoukro.

"President Houphouet-Boigny has been very tactful with President Mobutu," an observer close to the three foreign delegations that came to the Ivory Coast commented shortly after the conference. The Zairian head of state has imposed himself as "the" mediator within the Group of Eight, a role in which he has put a great deal of effort, and has recorded much success, it is emphasized by

authoritative sources. But, a serious misunderstanding broke out in July between himself and the doyen of African heads of state, whom he suspected of wanting to wreck his actions, according to authoritative sources. Thus it was mainly to discuss this personality conflict that President Kenneth Kaunda of Zambia, Manuel Pinto da Costa of Sao Tome and Principe, and Omar Bongo of Gabon, made the trip to Yamoussoukro as mandated by their colleagues of the group of eight, who are concerned over the turn of events and their effect on the Angolan peace process.

The misunderstanding between the two heads of state was caused by the sudden turnaround by General Jonas Savimbi, leader of the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola (UNITA, armed opposition) after the meeting organized in Gbadolite (Zaire) by Marshal Mobutu on 22 June. The controversy, which has not been resolved, came up on that occasion concerning what Mr Savimbi had really agreed to at the summit. Luanda and President Mobutu affirm that he accepted the six principles which form the basis of the peace plan presented at Gbadolite and which was revised a month later at the Harare summit: a cease-fire, national reconciliation, the creation of a mediation committee, the temporary exile of Jonas Savimbi, the integration of UNITA, and respect for the Angolan Constitution. The UNITA leader says he accepted only the first three points.

What was supposed to be a consecration for Marshal Mobutu turned out to be a fiasco, the Zairian head of state has felt it a personal failure, it was learned from

authoritative sources. Since he was convinced that President Houphouet-Boigny had masterminded the turnaround by Jonas Savimbi, who carefully follows the former's advice, the Zairian head of state had embarked on a series of harsh criticisms against the Ivorian head of state. With the help of "African wisdom", the two heads of state now seem to have made up their minds to settle their dispute—at least apparently. Thus, yesterday, to everyone's surprise, President Houphouet-Boigny said without blinking that there has "never been any misunderstanding between Ivory Coast and Zaire." He then said that he was "ready to welcome fraternally" his Zairian counterpart. Last week, Marshal Mobutu sent one of his sons, as an emissary, to deliver a message to the Ivorian president, hailing the "excellent relations between the two countries and their leaders." The two heads of state could therefore meet very soon in Yamoussoukro to seal this "reconciliation," it was learned from official sources.

Observers believe that with the minor squabbles now out of the way, the Angolan issue will now be at the forefront. However, the matter is more complex than it seems and President Bongo emphasized its extra-African implications, when he said, "no solution suitable to the two sides has been found yet." For the time being, each of the feuding brothers remains entrenched in his position. Both have agreed on the need to rapidly sign a cease-fire and begin direct negotiations, but Luanda has requested that as a precondition, Savimbi should accept the principles of the Gbadolite statement, while the UNITA leader has refused any preconditions, it was learned from reliable sources. Now the success of the next summit on Angola, to be held in Gabon on a date which remains to be determined, will depend on their determination to achieve something.

Cameroon

President Denies Negotiating With Former Leader

AB3010221089 Yaounde Domestic Service in French
1900 GMT 30 Oct 89

[Text] We will begin this newscast with a communique from the Presidency of the Republic. It is signed by the Cameroonian ambassador to France.

Coarse rumors coming from sources very far away from government circles in Yaounde have been speaking about so-called negotiations taking place between the Cameroonian Government and former President Ahidjo. We (?categorically deny) the validity of such false allegations and on the contrary assert that the government of Yaounde has not entered into any such negotiations anywhere with former President Ahidjo. The Cameroonian Government, under the leadership of President Paul Biya, has better things to do today in its exalting task of reviving the economy of the country than bringing ghosts back to life.

Biya Returns From Private Visit to Europe

AB2810223889 Yaounde Domestic Service in French
1900 GMT 28 Oct 89

[Text] Here is a communique from the Presidency of the Republic: His Excellency Mr Paul Biya, president of the Republic of Cameroon, returned to Yaounde today from a short private visit to Europe.

Chad

LE MONDE on Army, Rebel Clashes in Sudan

PM3110121489 Paris LE MONDE in French
28 Oct 89 p 8

[Jacques de Barrin report: "Violent Clashes Between Army and Rebels in Darfur"]

[Text] Everything is "calm" on the borders, President Hisssein Habre said a week ago during a visit to Brussels. In fact, the Chadian National Armed Forces [FANT] have just pursued rebel elements who have taken refuge in the Sudanese province of Darfur. Bitter clashes between the warring brothers took place in the middle of the desert and dozens were killed and hundreds wounded on each side.

In a communique published in Khartoum, the Chadian rebels reported the death of more than 1,200 government soldiers during a battle which was fought on 16 October near Bamissi, 170km east of the Sudanese border. In fact, according to reliable sources, the FANT lost between 50 and 90 men, including Youssouf Gamyé, the police chief, and the 300 wounded include Allafoza Koni Wuri-Mi, the commander in chief of the Army. Ndjamena's forces apparently succeeded in surrounding the rebel forces in the mountain region of Umm Sidr around 200 km inside Darfur Province.

These several thousand rebels—possibly 2,000 or more—had rallied to Idriss Deby, the feared military leader who helped Mr Habre, who like him is a member of the Gorani tribe, to regain power in 1982. In early April, for reasons which are still unclear, he rebelled against the head of state, after being his respected adviser on security and defense. He succeeded in reaching neighboring Sudan, whereas FANT commander in chief Hassan Djamous, who was fleeing with him, was arrested and taken back to Ndjamena where, according to the official version, he died from his wounds.

Idriss Deby's Betrayal

"The Chadians have finally been reconciled," Mr Habre said with satisfaction 1 week ago. The last prominent opponent who rallied to the regime in November 1988 was Acheikh Ibn Oumar, leader of the Chadian National Front, who was appointed foreign minister a few weeks later, to the displeasure of those like Mr Deby who had been loyal from the start. Goukouni Oueddei, the deposed president, no longer worries the present head of state who regards him as "neither a political nor a military force."

The fact remains that Mr Deby's betrayal complicates Mr Habre's national reconciliation policy. Left to themselves, the Chadian rebels, most of whom have taken refuge in Sudan, are now tending to place themselves under Mr Deby—a prestigious leader who, for the sake of the cause, is probably prepared to accept Libya's aid despite the fact that he fiercely fought that country in the past.

This new situation is likely to increase the Ndjamena authorities' distrust of Sudan which claims to have disarmed the Chadian rebels on its territory and to have limited their freedom of movement. It is also likely to increase distrust of Libya which, despite the framework peace agreement signed in Algiers on 31 August, is continuing, as usual, to keep several irons in the fire to prevent Mr Habre from thinking that he has won once and for all.

Mr Habre, who met with Mr Mitterrand in Paris last Saturday [21 October], must have informed him of his anxieties about Colonel al-Qadhafi's deliberate delays in implementing the peace agreement. He thinks that this is enough to justify not reducing the Epervier military force more than necessary, because Ndjamena thinks that the threat of war still lurks on its borders.

Equatorial Guinea

Mbasogo, USSR Ambassador Discuss Cooperation

AB2810223689 Malabo Domestic Service in Spanish
2100 GMT 27 Oct 89

[Text] President Obiang Nguema Mbasogo today received Lev Aleksandrovich Vajrameev, the Soviet ambassador accredited to Malabo, who was accompanied by (?two) officials from his embassy. The meeting, which was also attended by Alejandro Evono Ovono, the official in charge of special duties at the Presidency, enabled the president and

the ambassador to discuss various aspects of bilateral cooperation, as well as ways to strengthen relations between Moscow and Malabo. Mr Vajrameev took the opportunity to brief the head of state on Moscow's intention to build a new chancery in Malabo.

Gabon

Intelsat IV Satellite Launching Monitored

AB2911111789 Paris AFP in French 1015 GMT
28 Oct 89

[Text] Libreville, 28 Oct (AFP)—The satellite Intelsat IV separated from its launcher, Ariane, last night 250 km above Gabon under the supervision of a team from the European Space Agency stationed in the equatorial forest near Libreville.

In fact, 11 minutes after its launch, the rocket appeared on the screens of N'koltang station. Built in 1986, it is 35 km from the Gabonese capital and near important telecommunications installations.

The establishment of the station at 0.2 degrees or some 40 km from the Equator helped monitor the rocket's movement for the 11-15 minutes of the decisive phase of the end of the third stage, from the separation of the satellite to its entering into orbit. Earlier, Ariane was monitored from the base at Ascension, a small British island in the middle of the Atlantic Ocean. The satellite was later taken over by the South African base in Pretoria.

To Andre Cuisin, the official in charge of the station, his team of six persons including two Gabonese nationals is best placed to monitor and record this critical stage of the flight. All the parameters of the mission, 240,000 data per second, were recorded at N'koltang. This was later sent by air to the headquarters in Toulouse.

A 10-meter parabolic antenna on the roof of the small building, automatically monitors the movement of the engines that pass over it. Prepositioned by the calculators at Kourou, the launching base monitors the movement of the rocket and the satellite. Future installations will help to monitor the deployment of solar panels. In fact, a "black hole" of some 20 seconds that makes it difficult to monitor this stage exists during the transfer to Pretoria from the N'koltang coverage area.

Launches take place almost once a month and the week preceding every launch is a busy one. Nights look like days in Guyana. They ensure perfect contact between the stations and the launching base. Everything is planned and programmed. The intervention by man is no longer possible except in the case of an eventual local breakdown. But even then, as most of the equipment is duplicated, the risk is minimal.

Mr Cuisin also confessed that he does not break out the champagne after every launch since each is different. "Each satellite is different," according to weight, characteristics, or performance, the head of the center explained. The customers have different requirements and the task now is to monitor the movement of the launcher, which, following a slight maneuver so as not to follow the same path as the satellite, little by little falls back into the atmosphere where it is reduced to ashes after some days.

At daybreak, the European Space Agency team took the road back to Libreville. The following day, maintenance and repair work began in the African heat and humidity. Data processing and information equipment suffer a great deal, and the important part of their work is to see to it that everything works well at the desired time. "But no one must think that we only work 10 minutes a month," the official said with a smile.

Zaire

President Mobutu Sends Message to Angolan Leader

AB3010203089 Paris AFP in French 1508 GMT
30 Oct 89

[Text] Kinshasa, 30 Oct (AFP)—The Zairian head of state, Marshal Mobutu Sese Seko, today dispatched a special emissary to Luanda (Angola) to deliver a message to Angolan President Jose Eduardo dos Santos, it was learned from an official source in Kinshasa.

The deputy first state commissioner for citizen's rights and liberties, Mr Nimy Mayedika Ngimli, left the Zairian capital this morning with a message from President Mobutu to his Angolan counterpart. The contents of this message were not disclosed, but according to observers in Kinshasa, they are expected to be on the forthcoming meeting between the two heads of state, a meeting which was announced by President Mobutu during his visit to France. This meeting, which Zairian Foreign Minister Nguz A Karl-I-Bond said was imminent, is expected to take into account the schedule of the two presidents, it was announced officially. For several months now, Marshal Mobutu, mediator between Luanda and UNITA (National Union for the Total Independence of Angola) has been at the center of intensive diplomatic activity aimed at relaunching the peace process in Angola. Last week, the Zairian head of state sent his special advisor, Mr Kema Liloo, to Abidjan to deliver a personal message to the Ivorian president, Mr Felix Houphouet-Boigny.

Yamoussoukro, the Ivorian political capital, is today hosting a meeting on Angola. The meeting has brought together Presidents Omar Bongo of Gabon, Manuel Pinto da Costa of Sao Tome and Principe, Kenneth Kaunda of Zambia, and the Ivorian leader to prepare the forthcoming summit on Angola. The summit is expected to be held in Gabon at a date that is yet to be announced.

Ethiopia

Foreign Minister Summons Sudanese Diplomat

AB0111142089 Paris AFP in English 1414 GMT
1 Nov 89

[Text] Addis Ababa, Nov 1 (AFP)—Ethiopian Foreign Minister Berhanu Bayeh on Wednesday summoned the Sudanese charge d'affaires here, 'Abdul Hamid 'Abdin [name as received] to demand that Khartoum refrain from "spreading false allegations" against his country.

The summons related to charges by the Sudanese military on Sunday that rebels of the Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLA) had shelled the Sudanese town of Kurmuk from inside Ethiopian territory. The government Army said it staged a "strategic withdrawal" from Kurmuk after the repeated shelling.

Ethiopia immediately dismissed the allegation as "utterly false and unfounded".

During his meeting Wednesday with the Sudanese diplomat, Mr Berhanu "demanded an end to the practice of pointing a finger at Ethiopia whenever the outcome of a conflict against the opposition is not in favor of the government", a statement by the Foreign Ministry here said. Artillery shells fired by the Sudanese Army had in fact landed in Ethiopian territory, though border security officials chose to shift their positions rather than respond in kind, the minister said.

The show of restraint by the Ethiopian side was deliberate and intended to avoid any undue aggravation of the situation, he added.

Ethiopia rarely summons diplomats to the Foreign Ministry but viewed the latest accusations by Khartoum as too serious to ignore, observers said.

President Mengistu Speaks on War Effort 30 Oct

EA3010215989 Addis Ababa Domestic Service
in Amharic 1732 GMT 30 Oct 89

[Speech by President Haile Mariam Mengistu at the first special session of the Central Committee of the Workers Party of Ethiopia in Addis Ababa on 30 October—recorded]

[Text] Dear Comrades: As you know, during our last Central Committee meeting—the 10th one—most of our attention was focused on the problem in the northern part of our country, which has forced us to make enormous sacrifices. We discussed ways of continuing and reinforcing efforts to resolve the problem peacefully. On the one hand, the emergence of certain positive signs was noted, while, on the other, the situation facing our country was described as one of great danger. On the one hand, the so-called rebels are treacherously preparing the ground for the separation of Eritrea. On the other hand, they want the rest of the broad masses of Ethiopia to come under the control of the tribalist program initiated

by groups from one area. If this is not possible, they will settle for a chaotic civil war.

The arrogant campaign to dismember the country, which was launched from different directions, has reached an alarming stage. This is quite obvious. The war was initiated by the rebels, who have mobilized a huge number of people, deceiving them with backward, narrow, and tribalistic ideas. The extent of the damage caused by the rebels is widespread. They shed blood and committed massacres in Tigray by mobilizing the people of Tigray against the rest of the nation in a tribalistic way. They have committed massacres and jeopardized the lives of innocent people in Welo and Gonder areas which border on Tigray.

Others have been looted and robbed of their wealth, uprooted from their peaceful lives and exposed to famine and misery. Development projects and programs for 1989/90, which were intended to benefit the entire Ethiopian people have been halted by the war, which required priority attention. Rebels have also destroyed existing development institutions. They have hindered the implementation of our country's 5-year plan. In general, they have created great obstacles to the activities which were planned and geared to the abilities of the government and the people and the country's resources—important activities which were aimed at improving the people's standard of living.

Hostilities on the war front are only one side of the war. On the internal front, war-related devastation in economic, political, social, and other spheres, not to mention the military sphere, is enormous. I do not think I need to elaborate on the consequences of the dangers posed to the unity of the Ethiopian people. The intensified war against us is not confined to the damage it causes in various sectors. The devastation and danger will have a lasting effect. The current war is not creating problems for this generation alone; its effects will hurt the next generation, retarding its development in different ways.

When we say a great danger is looming over our country, it is not only from the point of view of defending ourselves against an offensive by specific groups. Our assessment is based on an analysis of various aspects of the danger. The need for rapid defensive measures to halt the offensive arises from this.

As I mentioned earlier, the all-around danger faced by our country is very grave. Because we realize the extent of this grave danger, we are explaining the situation officially for the Ethiopian people so that they can fully grasp it and make their choice. For their part the people were greatly angered by the treachery of the rebels who chose to spread the war. The people have officially and clearly demonstrated their wish to move quickly to defend their country. This unhesitating decision by the Ethiopian people is very much related to their well-known and age-old love of freedom. It is evidence of the

people's constant readiness to make sacrifices for mother Ethiopia. This decision has satisfied history and renewed our sense of patriotism.

The great task awaiting us is the coordination and guidance of this decision and the organization of the people in every corner of the country to guarantee and affirm national unity and dignity. Therefore, in order to fulfill the people's wishes, leaders of the party, government, and mass organizations, as well as sincere and patriotic citizens, should make special preparations and move decisively.

If the problem we are facing persists, the repercussions will be difficult to overcome. Hence the need to nip it in the bud. It is also vital that the Ethiopian people, who have arisen in anger, win a lasting victory. Therefore, a great deal is required from us in organizing and handling the children of the people. This requires vigilance, concentration, and more care than ever before.

The main strategy in defending our country is the proper strengthening of our regular revolutionary Army with manpower and material so that it can meet its obligations. There should be vast popular participation which must be well coordinated and mobilized for the decisive victory.

Dear comrades, in order to thwart the dangerous conspiracy of national destruction and war, the readiness of every genuine and responsible Ethiopian is more decisive than anything else. All genuine citizens, including both fighters at the front and followers in the rear, should fully realize the full extent of the machinations by the anti-Ethiopian forces and maintain their spirit of nationalism. There is no other alternative. In defending ourselves against the danger foisted on us and overcoming it, manpower is the decisive factor. The state of our national economy will play an important role in achieving success.

In a war situation, the supply of provisions, arms, and all the necessary support in a coordinated manner is a task which requires special attention. At the same time, the provision of consumer goods to the public, to at least some extent, is another task which should not be neglected. Society has to continue functioning and discharging its responsibilities. As happens in any war situation, coordination of our country's manpower and national economy is essential, if it is to withstand and end the war. Poor coordination between our Army, which is fighting at the war front, and the working people engaged in various economic spheres, could have a decisive effect on the (?progress) of the struggle. Therefore, this matter should not be neglected in any way.

As I mentioned earlier, in order to make a success of our efforts and to implement many development undertakings this year, we had started preparation of a 5-year plan. However, in the light of the escalated war waged against us, it has become necessary to gear this year's plan to the objective conditions. Above all, it has become essential to delay the launching of the 5-year plan and to

draw up a plan which will enable us to withstand the war, in general, and (?overcome) a bitter situation [word indistinct]. In any war situation, indiscipline and negligence in the field, in service industries or in offices, are harmful to the country and compatriots, and a great boost for the enemy.

All employees and heads of departments should devote all their time, capability, and knowledge to production and [word indistinct]. This is a task which cannot be viewed in isolation from the responsibility of the Army deployed at the war front. As well as contributing their share, the people in the rear should cover the duties of compatriots deployed to preserve the motherland and prevent it from suffering, and take care of their families properly. From the outset this is a responsibility which should not be neglected in any way. The overall outcome of our struggle depends on it.

Dear comrades, the Ethiopian people are strong enough to overcome any kind of (?problem). I believe that this [words indistinct] of every Ethiopian who is genuinely proud of himself. There is no force which can satisfy his needs. Because of their self-confidence and love of freedom, the Ethiopian people have always fought valiantly against invaders and colonialists, as they are now struggling against division and [word indistinct]. This unwavering position of self-confidence and love of freedom has lived with them for [words indistinct]. Their special hallmark has been to prefer to sacrifice with pride rather than to accept disgrace. Because of various enemy conspiracies and the greed of those who seek temporary benefits, the Ethiopian people could not concentrate fully on progress and forge ahead.

They are recognized throughout the world for their pride in themselves and their firm position on freedom. This is a matter of historical record for generations to come. The Ethiopian people have not yet overcome backwardness. However, as far as history is concerned, they are on a par with peoples who are more advanced and [word indistinct]. The Ethiopian people have not yet overcome poverty. But they have never surrendered the pride of their country. It is the sum of these characteristics which makes up the identity of being an Ethiopian.

It is true that, while being proud of ourselves, we do not want to remain backward. That is why it was necessary to draw up various plans for social progress during the historic reforms of the revolutionary years. Although we could not forge ahead in the way we wanted due to obvious man-made hindrances and natural problems, the sacrifices made and tasks undertaken in order to lay down the necessary basis for progress are held in high regard. Even today, the necessary steps to alleviate social problems and achieve economic progress are being taken. The situation is being assessed and plans are being prepared so that the people and the country may preserve their independence.

We will not hesitate to do everything necessary for Ethiopia and the Ethiopian people, not just on the basis

of our (?assessment) of the situation internally and internationally, but on the basis of specific conditions. The tasks we undertook in one way or the other should not be viewed in isolation.

The preservation of the unity and independence of our motherland is getting most of our attention at the moment. (?Coordinating) the war front with the economy, and the economy with the political situation in general involves everyone, from the basic level to the upper echelons of socioeconomic organs. Spiritual and material conditions are inseparable. Therefore, in order to be victorious in the war, to achieve satisfaction in other (?spheres), [words indistinct] and to embark on a guaranteed path of progress, it is necessary to organize and coordinate all spheres more than ever before and to advance towards our goals.

We will continue our efforts to make the necessary assessments and take the necessary steps in order to guarantee the unity of our country and improve the life of the people. Preparations already made for the second congress of our party provide the initial groundwork for this.

Because the war is a civil war it is very complex. If we try and divide the participants into fighters at the front and supporters in the rear, we will be restricting our room for maneuver. The offensive against us ranges from rumor-mongering and intrigues to the threatening of people at gunpoint. We should be able to tackle all aspects of all these threats.

Although we have been drawn into a large-scale war by our enemies, we do not want this war to continue for a long time. Therefore, our aim should be to stop the war by scoring a decisive and quick victory. The level of efficiency and vigilance this requires should be clear to all of us. By effectively and swiftly arranging the activities of our revolutionary Army and popular forces, I have confidence that we, the Ethiopian people, will quickly bring help to our compatriots at the front and the genuine Ethiopians in Tigray who are standing against the rebels. The rebels, who are bent on massive destruction, will not be pardoned by history. Their quislings will be uprooted. When we have done this, the implementation of the peace initiative should continue. I strongly urge this in the name of the Central Committee.

Ethiopia First. Thank you.

Warns Rebels 'To Withdraw'

EA3110141889 Addis Ababa Domestic Service
in Amharic 0930 GMT 31 Oct 89

[Text] Comrade President Mengistu Haile Mariam has said that rebels are waging war against us in order to undermine the unity of our country. In view of the responsibility given to us to implement the people's decision, we should coordinate the people and make it possible for them to score a victory. There is no other option, he said. [passage indistinct]

He pointed out that all citizens engaged in production and service sectors at all levels should compare their responsibilities with those of the compatriots deployed at the front and the sacrifices they are making. Accordingly they should discharge their duties with great efficiency.

On behalf of the National Shengo Comrade President Mengistu strongly (?warned) the rebel group to stop their destructive acts and war mission against the unity of Ethiopia, so as to prevent further destruction and bloodshed. He called on them to withdraw immediately from areas to which they have spread terror. He advised them to present whatever case they may have, formally and properly, at a negotiating table.

In his report Comrade President Mengistu expressed gratitude and [word indistinct] in the name of the National Shengo, to our revolutionary Army which is making great sacrifices and discharging the responsibilities entrusted to it by the people. He warmly thanked the people's militia in Gonder, Welo, and northern Shewa administrative regions and genuine Ethiopians in Tigray who are facing a difficult situation as they oppose the rebels.

Further on Address to Shengo

AB3110150189 Paris AFP in English 1257 GMT
31 Oct 89

[Text] Addis Ababa, Oct 31 (AFP)—Ethiopian President Mengistu Haile Mariam on Tuesday warned Tigray rebels to retreat immediately from the neighbouring provinces of Gonder and Welo or be prepared to suffer the consequences. The avoidance of further bloodshed and destruction depended on "the immediate retreat by the adventurers from the lands of other nationalities to which they spread terror," the president told an emergency session of parliament. The special parliamentary session followed a similar emergency meeting by the ruling Workers' Party Central Committee on Monday [30 October].

Both considered plans to end the crisis caused by rebels of the Tigray People's Liberation Front (TPLF), which has been blamed in recent weeks for being a tool of Eritrean secessionists. The Central Committee passed resolutions calling for a "coordinated national effort" to thwart the Tigray rebellion.

According to the authorities, the TPLF rebels have left a trail of death and devastation in Gonder and Welo Provinces since the outbreak of renewed fighting on August 31.

Although a military option seemed the only alternative in the context of the president's speech to parliament, he nevertheless did not rule out the possibility of a political and peaceful settlement, analysts noted. "We would like to stress that the root causes for the widespread and

unfortunate destruction now in progress can be negotiated around the conference table in accordance with the Shengo's peace initiative," he told the MPS.

He was referring to a six-point peace plan proposed by the Shengo (parliament) on June 5 to rebels in northern Ethiopia, including the TPLF, [word indistinct] negotiate a political settlement to the country's drawn-out civil wars.

The president gave no definite reply to claims by the TPLF that peace talks with the government are due to begin in Rome from November 4.

Lieutenant-Colonel Mengistu warned that any delay in mobilizing for action would strengthen the position of the rebels. "Failure to move quickly, decisively and with force to thwart and crush this extremely dangerous plot will be tantamount to buying time for the enemy," he warned.

"The task of this parliament is to chart out the strategy and practical measures necessary for a decisive victory based on the clear decision of the people," he told the MPS.

The president has been careful in recent speeches to present the military option as a clear choice of the people and not one that is being imposed by government edict.

By extension, this seems to have been taken as a massive vote [passage indistinct] that some projects be shelved or postponed to allow the diversion of resources to defence.

Shengo Passes Plan for Dealing With Rebels

EA3110201289 Addis Ababa Domestic Service
in Amharic 1700 GMT 31 Oct 89

[Text] The second extraordinary meeting of the Shengo [National Assembly] has stated that the Ethiopian people still extend their arm for peace. They do this based on the decisive stand they have taken to counter the Weyane [Tigray People's Liberation Front—TPLF] who are bent on destroying the unity of Ethiopia, and are paving the way for Eritrea to split from the country. After discussing the issue exhaustively, and assessing the dangers looming over our country, the Shengo has passed the following resolutions:

1. The National Plan, Budget and Action Plan passed by the National Shengo at its third regular session should be improved in line with the understanding of the current situation of our country. It should be implemented in such a way that we can counter the dangers looming over our country, and should safeguard the security and unity of our country.

2. While peace efforts continue, aimed at bringing lasting peace to solve the problems in the northern part of the country, the Shengo urges the Weyane group to urgently desist from demolishing the unity of the country, and from its mission to carry out fratricidal bloodshed, and it urges the group to come and hold genuine peace talks.

The Shengo calls on the Tigray people to understand that the Weyane war is antiunity, and does not benefit them. They are doing more damage to themselves, and should stand up alongside the Ethiopian broad masses. These masses have mobilized with rage against the Weyane position, and raised their arms against the Weyanes, who are tribalists and are bent on soiling their history.

3. There is no alternative to the arrogant war to save the unity of the motherland, Ethiopia, and create favorable grounds for lasting peace. There could be no rights, freedom, or development in a situation where the very existence of the country is threatened. Inasmuch as this is true, the popular force of all of Ethiopia should be mobilized, armed, and deployed under proper leadership, and in an appropriate manner, to counter the intensified war against us, and destroy the aggression in an equally intensive manner. The remaining Ethiopians should carry out their necessary duties for the security of their country's unity.

4. The revolutionary Army, fighting for the unity and security of the country, should be strengthened in manpower, materials, and other necessary ways to enable it to carry out its responsibilities. The activities of coordinating and mobilizing the regular and popular forces should be further strengthened and continued. Members of the executive bodies of the political organs, and people's deputies at all levels, should be mobilized and deployed as appropriate with the Popular Force, which is to be mobilized to the war front.

5. The State Council, aiming to safeguard the country's unity, and bring about lasting peace, should take any necessary action, with all the nation's ability, to implement the position adopted by the entire Ethiopian people, and the resolutions adopted by the National Shengo.

6. The State Council, the president of the Republic and the government, should get mobilized so as to ably counter the destructive war waged against us.

WPE Issues War Resolution

EA3110203889 Addis Ababa Domestic Service
in Amharic 1750 GMT 30 Oct 89

[Workers Party of Ethiopia—WPE—Central Committee four-point resolution on rebels passed in Addis Ababa 30 October; read by announcer]

[Excerpt] [Passage omitted] The four points are as follows:

1. In defiance of the peace call, various conspiracies have been hatched by the rebels. Great preparations have been made to dismember the northern part of our country, Eritrea, to impose a double (?)burden on the rest of the country or to completely dismember it. Therefore, in accordance with the decision taken by the Ethiopian people, all steps must be coordinated to withstand the large-scale war waged against us.

2. It is vital to ward off the threat to our motherland and to preserve the unity, independence, and progress of our people. Therefore, all genuine Ethiopians should make every sacrifice toward the decisive struggle to save the

country, strengthen our revolutionary army in all ways possible, and to supplement and wage the struggle with the participation of the broad masses.

3. In order to score a proud and comprehensive victory, it is necessary to coordinate and strengthen socioeconomic efforts in view of the decisive struggle that we wage at the front.

4. Because of the present alarming situation the action plan charted out by the 10th regular session of the Central Committee must be implemented. The strategies outlined at the ninth regular session of the Central Committee and other economic and political steps to supplement the struggle must be studied and translated into action. [passage omitted]

More on War Resolutions

EA3110204689 (Clandestine) Voice of the Tigray
Revolution in Amharic 0400 GMT 31 Oct 89

[Text] The Workers Party of Ethiopia (WPE) Central Committee passed a four-point resolution at its meeting yesterday, 30 October 1989. The resolution, whose tone contrasts sharply with plans to start peace talks in Rome, generally places the (?people) on a war footing. The resolution passed at yesterday's emergency (?session) commits Eritrea's entire people and resources and launches the Ethiopian people into an interminable war and genocide which will last for many years. It encourages the Ethiopian people to massacre one another, undermines Ethiopia's unity which has been (?fostered) by struggle, and inflicts an incurable wound on the country and its people.

The WPE Central Committee resolution was passed after the Tigray People's Liberation Front (TPLF) had officially revealed to the Ethiopian people its readiness to start peace talks with the Dergue in Rome, under Italian Government auspices, and named the members of its delegation and after the Italian Government had officially announced its readiness to act as an observer at the peace talks between the TPLF and the Dergue. The WPE Central Committee resolution [word indistinct] is evidence that it still opposes peace and advocates (?destruction) [words indistinct]. It also shows that the Dergue plans to beat the Ethiopian people into submission by massacring them. But these plans will not succeed.

Truly, the Dergue is moving to press-gang young people into the war. It has halted its 5-year economic plan. It aims to involve the Ethiopian people by forcing contributions out of them and spending the money on the genocidal war. It is also looking at other ways of confusing and forcing them.

However, the Ethiopian people will never submit to their foe's conspiracy since they are so bitter about the 15 years the Dergue spent taxing them in both blood and money. They know that democratic and peaceful unity will not come under the Dergue. All that can be expected from it is genocide and destruction.

The Ethiopian broad masses' desire is to bring about peace and democracy as outlined by the EPRDF. Practical support has been given by the broad masses of Welo and Gonder, who are assisting Operation Torch to destroy the Dergue system. The remaining Ethiopian masses are impatient for the Ethiopian People's Revolution Democratic Front [EPDRF] to repeat the action carried out in Welo and Gonder and are determined to (?do) what they can.

The people are giving their support, not to the Dergue's damage and destruction, but to the EPRDF's peace and democracy—not to the Dergue system, which is based on (?bitter) oppression, obstruction, and disunity but to the unity of the Ethiopian people's democracy.

The Ethiopian broad masses' choice is for democratic and peaceful unity that will come about through the struggle of the EPDRF and the broad masses. So, the people will steadfastly oppose the WPE Central Committee's antipeople, antipeace, and antidemocracy resolution. They will fight on and win.

President Mengistu Addresses Shengo 31 Oct

EA3110220589 Addis Ababa Domestic Service
in Amharic 1733 GMT 31 Oct 89

[Report by President Mengistu Haile Mariam to second extraordinary session of the National Shengo (legislature) in Addis Ababa; 31 October—recorded]

[Excerpts] Dear National Shengo members, it will be recalled that our National Shengo's third ordinary session, in the spirit of preserving national unity and freedom of the country, to carry out development activities and to create suitable conditions for these activities, to spread the Republic's structure at all levels, held detailed discussions on major issues, and passed resolutions and programs.

Since then, while we have been making efforts to implement the Shengo efforts in every sphere, the antiunity forces and detractors of our aims have intensified their offensives to impede our progress.

While the Shengo, at that meeting, was discussing issues pertaining to national integrity and freedom, the improvement of our socioeconomic life, and the applicability of its peace initiative adopted at its first extraordinary session—in general while it was discussing peace and national reconstruction—one of our antiunity enemies, the Tigray Weyane [Tigray People's Liberation Front—TPLF] left Tigray territory and treacherously invaded northern Welo and northern Gonder.

This group, which rose up with tribalist goals, persisted in its treacherous activity of creating conflict between compatriots. Due to this our country's unity and freedom, which is based on common struggle over the ages, has been subjected to a new and dangerous situation. The current urgent issue is to seriously examine and quickly change the situation.

As we have repeatedly explained before, to end bloodshed through peace talks, we had preliminary talks in London with the so-called TPLF group, as well as talks with the opposition groups in Eritrea, and agreements were reached on holding talks on procedural matters in Rome, with the Italian Government's mediation.

Nevertheless, our opponents have misinterpreted officially our strong will for peace and our genuine efforts. Though our enemies negative intentions and their subsequent destructive activities were annoying, we never expected they would reach the alarming situation of completely destroying the country. [passage omitted]

We have looked into the possible solution the TPLF group proposed earlier. But what is the answer to the question. How and why did the problem come about? I think it is necessary to look into the so-called points which the TPLF claims make up its position.

This group has been manifesting a narrow Tigray position by propagating the idea that the Tigray people are different from the rest of the Ethiopian people, that they had their own government before, and if need be can be separate, and can create their own government. This idea has been confusing, and has been creating great havoc with narrow Tigrayan feelings. It has also intensified, as shown recently by the war waged in the name of liberating Ethiopia.

In their destructive activity, the TPLF has been a leading instrument of Ethiopia's current enemies, and it is hindering the development of the entire Ethiopian people, in addition to the aggression it is waging at the warfront.

The TPLF group, in a bid to confuse and use the people for its narrow interests, has been changing its appearance, but its basic mission is unmistakable. On the one hand its aim is to enable the separation of Eritrea on the instructions of its masters and on the other to impose one area's supremacy over the broad masses of Ethiopia, and if this is not achieved to dismember or disintegrate Ethiopia in the name of freedom for tribes and nationalities.

Currently, our revolutionary force, which is ready to safeguard Ethiopia's unity and independence, and the popular force at the warfront are fighting with an Ethiopian zeal and heroism to curb the TPLF's unwarranted aggression.

The dangers looming over Ethiopia are planned and coordinated by the forces of anti-Ethiopia, and so, in order to urgently change the situation, we have discovered that it needs the entire people's appropriate attention and participation. In the steps we have taken to explain the nature of the danger to the entire Ethiopian people and in line with our request for the people to let us know their choice, people throughout the country have shown their decision by mobilizing themselves from every corner of the country with resounding anger.

The people's response in different forums, jointly and individually, says that we cannot sit and watch our country being dismembered and sent back to the Dark Ages by a civil war. We are ready to pay any sacrifice to safeguard the unity and independence of the country in any direction. [passage omitted]

Dear National Shengo members, the dangerous situation facing our country and the people's response to change this is very clear. This National Shengo's responsibility is to put into action the people's decision and position, the plan for popular consensus, and to decide on steps to be taken.

Especially as far as the battlefront is concerned, the main focus should be on strengthening the regular Army in all respects, and to prepare and mobilize an able and extensive people's militia.

Since the task before us is to save the country from collapse, our preparation, in all directions, should be reliable in bringing about a decisive victory. [passage omitted]

In the name of the National Shengo I would like to take this opportunity to praise our revolutionary Army, which is making tremendous sacrifices in meeting the responsibility entrusted to it by the people, as well as the people's militia in Gonder, Welo, Gojam, northern Shewa, Aseb autonomous region, and the genuine anti-TPLF Ethiopians in Tigray, who are in a very difficult position. [passage omitted]

Italian Foreign Ministry: Talks To Open 4 Nov

*AB0111094389 Paris AFP in French 1426 GMT
31 Oct 89*

[Text] Rome, 31 Oct (AFP)—"Preliminary talks" aimed at settling the conflict in northern Ethiopia will take place on 4 November in Rome between representatives of the Ethiopian Government and the Tigray People's Liberation Front (TPLF) at the request of both sides. In a communique issued today, the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs explained that the discussions follow an agreement signed in September in London on the place and modalities for the discussions.

In an address to parliament, Ethiopian President Mengistu Haile Mariam issued a warning to the Tigray rebels after their offensives in two provinces in northeastern Ethiopia. He, however, accepted the possibility of "negotiating at the conference table."

For its part, the TPLF, which has been launching offensives since 31 August in Gonder and Welo Provinces, stated in a communique on Friday that it accepted the Rome meeting as proof of its attachment to its peace principles.

Further Reportage on Fighting Activity

Kuta Ber Recaptured From Rebels

EA3110122089 Addis Ababa Domestic Service
in Amharic 0930 GMT 31 Oct 89

[From the headlines]

[Text] The town of Kuta Ber, in Dese Zuriya Province of southern Welo Administrative Region, has been liberated from the rebels.

Mekele Claimed Bombed 29 Oct

EA3110142489 (Clandestine) Voice of the Tigray
Revolution in Amharic 0400 GMT 31 Oct 89

[Excerpt] The racist Workers Party of Ethiopia [WPE] is continuing its anti-peace actions aimed at terrorizing our struggling people. By means of genocide, it seeks to cripple our struggle for peace, democracy, and people's unity. It is continuing its atrocities and barbaric air raids. Accordingly, on 29 October 1989—the day before yesterday—it carried out a 2d air raid over Mekele and surrounding areas. Twenty houses were destroyed in the 30-minute air raid. No casualties were reported. During the air raid the fascist WPE made a futile attempt to complete the destruction of the town's electric generator which it set on fire 8 months ago when it evacuated Mekele. [passage omitted]

EPLF Summons Eritrean Youth To Join

EA3010214889 (Clandestine) Voice of the Broad
Masses of Eritrea in Tigrinya 1500 GMT 30 Oct 89

[Station commentary: "The Dergue still Wants To Trade With The Blood of Eritreans"]

[Excerpts] The Dergue is prepared to use the Eritreans as cannon-fodder in the war it is waging in Welo and Gonder against the Tigray Peoples Liberation Front and the Ethiopian People's Democratic Movement, the EPDM.

The secret plan is now over. The Dergue is hurrying to implement it. In the past few days, the Dergue has decreed it officially.

In the past few weeks, Dergue officials have told the people's militia in (Kohain Ayla Gindit), Adi Tekelezan, Ela Bared and Keren, to get ready to be deployed in the war against the rebels in Welo and Gonder. Get ready might mean to say their last prayers before going.

A second and broad plan is aimed at young people. The Dergue will conscript the youth from areas under its control, and give them training for a very short time. Then it will urgently deploy them in the war, which is causing huge problems for Ethiopia.

The Dergue is preparing to implement this program with the help of Dembay Adem, Tesfahugnegn Maesho, and Muse Bekhit, known puppets, who are trading in the

name and destiny of the Eritrean people. In the past week, these puppets have warned the people in Keren, Hagaz, Adi Tekelezan, and other places, and decreed that anyone age 14 or over, whether he likes or not, will have to take up arms. This issue has (?scared the people). In other places the decree has been already implemented. [passage omitted]

Today, the Dergue is in its death throes. And that is why the Dergue is trying to use the Eritrean youth and militia as cannon fodder in an alien land, to fight war that does not concern them.

So, will the Eritrean youth and militia give the Dergue a change to herd them like sheep and lead them to the war, and be used as the Dergue's last card? Will they give the Dergue a chance to gamble with their blood? Will they go to Ethiopia without any objective, and die in the war? Will they let themselves get crippled, and die without making history?

Today it is different from the old days. You cannot say: I will run away, I will hide somewhere or will escape this tragedy through bribery.

The choice is clear. Either you die a useless death by serving the interests of the Dergue, or you totally reject the dying oppressive regime and join the Eritrean Peoples Liberation Front [EPLF] to attain your freedom.

We believe the choice of these people is to reject the Dergue regime, and to join the popular force, which is the their vanguard. We reiterate that this issue is a matter of great urgency, and should not be delayed.

Oromos Charge Amhara Rulers With Supremacy

EA2911191189 (Clandestine) Voice of Oromo
Liberation in Oromo 0330 GMT 28 Oct 89

[Excerpts] It is not the Oromos who have supremacy in the Ethiopian empire. There is no need to tell anyone in the Ethiopian empire about the Dergue government, led by Mengistu Haile Mariam, which is antipeople, antidemocracy, and, in short, antihuman.

The people know very well about this regime, the so-called Workers Party of Ethiopia [WPE], and whose interests it protects. Verbally, they cheat people in many ways, while in practice they commit crimes.

The recent program of the WPE is to try to save itself from disaster by using the people, who have no rights in the country, against each other. The Amhara rulers, who colonized the Oromos a century ago, are worried these days, because they are now unable to go the same way of their forefathers. [passage omitted]

Who are the members of the so-called WPE, and who is in charge? Although it has one leader, the other members of the WPE, who carry out different functions, also protect the old supremacy.

Let's examine its Politburo. The WPE has 11 Politburo members, and 7 of them were Dergue members in the past, and the right-hand men of Mengistu. They killed others, and committed crimes against the people. As well as being military, they are also armed colonizers [naftagna]. [passage omitted]

The remaining four civilians are similar to them. One native Eritrean, Amanuel Amde-Mikael, fled to America after recognizing the WPE's crimes. There are six alternate Politburo members, of which two are Oromos. [passage omitted]

In general, of the present Politburo members, only one is a Tigrayan, and two are Oromos. Not one Oromo can vote, since none are Politburo members, and the two who are alternate members only take orders. The clear picture of the WPE regarding its overall structure is of a party of the Amhara military, which protects the Amhara supremacy at the highest level.

If we turn to Mengistu's speech of 18 October 1989, he asked whether the WPE was formed from one or two nationalities. The answer is that the WPE is formed not from two nationalities, but only from the Amhara. The lies of Mengistu's speech on the equality of the people can be proven by the fact that the WPE is dedicated to maintaining Amhara rule and supremacy by appointing colonizers to every post. Who prepares the agendas for the party, implements its resolutions, appointments or sacks, and makes policy? There are eight people who do that. [passage omitted]

Only one is not an Amhara among those eight. The WPE Central Committee members are no different. Its members at the beginning were 199, the majority of them from the military, and chosen by Mengistu himself.

Of the 199 WPE Central Committee members, there were only 39 non-Amhara, and 160 of them, or 80 per cent, were Amharas. That is the clear fact Mengistu tried to deny. This is a party formed from one nationality, and dedicated to protecting the supremacy of that nationality. At the same time Mengistu describes it as a workers' party representing the equality of the people.

How is it possible for Mengistu to include the Oromo people as (?rulers), when Amhara rule and supremacy have revealed themselves? What do the Oromos and Amharas have in common? It is clear that he cannot provide any evidence at all, except to lie and create confusion to the public. It is this Amhara party which is called the people's party.

The Amhara supremacy reveals itself not only in this but in other areas as well. What about the body implementing the party's resolutions and orders? What about the law courts, where people expect to get justice? Who

are those judges? We will provide the answers to these questions in our next program.

Somalia

Rebels Protest Uganda's Treatment of Refugees

EA2910072889 (Clandestine) Radio of the Somali National Movement in Somali 1500 GMT 28 Oct 89

[From the "Information" program]

[Excerpts] Dear listeners: A statement was released last night by the Central Command of the Somali National Movement, SNM, on the 14 persons who asked the Ugandan Government for political asylum. The statement was signed by an SNM spokesman.

The spokesman said that the SNM is greatly perturbed by the Ugandan Government's action in imprisoning 14 innocent youths who, seeking ways and means of escaping from the Mogadishu cannibal, Siad Barre, asked the Ugandan Government for asylum. The spokesman spoke in detail about the reasons why Somali refugees have fled to neighboring countries like Ethiopia, Kenya, and Djibouti and to the five continents of the world. The spokesman said the reasons are insecurity and instability prevailing in Somalia, for which Siad Barre's government is fully responsible. The spokesman mentioned the total extermination of the civilian population in the northern regions of the country after SNM fighters captured some major towns there last year. [passage omitted]

The spokesman appealed to [words indistinct] and his administration to release the 14 persons imprisoned at Busia, Uganda. The spokesman said if they were not freed, they would have jumped from the frying-pan into the fire. The spokesman called for the 14 persons to be handed over to whichever organization they claimed to support—the SNM, the Somali Patriotic Movement or the Somali Salvation Democratic Front.

The spokesman concluded his statement by asking how the Ugandan Government, which only yesterday was a liberation movement, could hand over refugees to a merciless enemy? He called on the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and other relief groups and human rights organizations like Amnesty International to intervene and ensure that the youths are released from prison and not returned to the cannibalistic regime in Mogadishu, and ensure headed by big mouth [reference to Said Barre]. He urged them to support Somali refugees who are beleaguered and suffering in Kenya.

Finally, the spokesman said that he hoped that the Ugandan and relief organizations would heed the appeal. [passage omitted]

Government: SWAPO Could Endanger Namibia Peace

*MB0111160489 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1553 GMT 1 Nov 89*

[Text] Pretoria Nov 1 SAPA—The South African Government warned late on Wednesday afternoon that the Namibian peace process could be jeopardised by information it had intercepted this afternoon of large-scale SWAPO [South-West African People's Organization] military activity on the Angolan/Namibian border.

Addressing a hastily-called news conference at the Union Buildings, Foreign Affairs Minister Pik Botha—flanked by Defence Minister General Magnus Malan, and the chief of the SA [South African] Defence Force, General Jannie Geldenhuys—said he regretted that information had reached the South African Government this afternoon which clearly indicated that UNTAG [UN Transition Assistance Group] stations themselves were concerned about such SWAPO activity.

One such message between UNTAG stations said the "situation is becoming critical".

Mr Botha said he had called the secretary-general of the United Nations, Dr Javier Perez de Cuellar, as well as UN special representative in Namibia, Mr Martti Ahtisaari, just before the press conference to warn them of the grave situation developing, which he hoped was not reminiscent of the April 1 SWAPO incursions.

He had also called in this afternoon a number of ambassadors of major countries, and would continue to do so this evening.

His representative in Namibia would also consult the SWAPO leadership in Namibia this evening.

Mr Botha said "this time we're not dealing with South African information but with UNTAG information to UNTAG".

It seemed clear that some central UNTAG station sent messages to all other UNTAG stations expressing anxiety and revealing specific details of the numbers of SWAPO personnel involved.

One message intercepted by the South Africans said "it seems like great...is going to hit us...."

Mr Botha said he had urged the representatives of other countries to warn their governments urgently that unless the SA Government received assurances that a recurrence of April 1 was not happening, it reserved the right to "take whatever steps would be required to ensure that all parties comply with their obligations".

SA security forces had already been put on the alert.

Mr Botha said the Namibian elections—scheduled to start next week—could be delayed "if these threats and activities continue—then there cannot be a free and fair election".

It was clear from the intercepted message that SWAPO had warned UNTAG patrols not to interference, and it appeared UNTAG "is certainly not doing its job".

Mr Botha said SWAPO military activities included crossings of the border.

He added that he "still believes the matter could be resolved—but we've told the South African public we will not allow independence to happen through the barrel of a gun".

One UNTAG report mentioned the movement of 600 SWAPO personnel.

"The SWAPO leadership must take note this evening that we now know this."

At the start of the conference, Mr Botha said his government had noted with pleasure the positions taken by the U.S. and the UK in the UN Security Council in New York on Tuesday [31 October] reaffirming their support for the 1982 principles for Namibian independence, and the requirement of a two-thirds majority having to affirm the constitution of the constituent assembly about to be elected.

Mr Botha pointed out that the role of the SA-appointed administrator-general, Mr Louis Pienaar, in especially maintaining law and order would not stop with the elections, but would continue until independence—scheduled for next year.

Arrangements Set To Move Voters to Namibian Polls

*MB3010153889 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1518 GMT 30 Oct 89*

[Text] Johannesburg Oct 30 SAPA—Arrangements have been made countrywide to transport the more than 10,000 South African residents who are eligible to vote in the election in Namibia to the territory next week to vote, SABC [South African Broadcasting Corporation] radio news reports.

It says most voters will be transported by bus to the nearest two polling stations, at Ariamsvlei and Korabib, and others will be transported by aircraft and train.

The SABC's Upington representative reports most hotels have been fully booked and all accommodation taken up at the island holiday resort at Upington.

Additional accommodation has been arranged in school hostels.

The buses have been laid on by the Friends of South West Africa organisation.

Mata-Mata Post at Namibia Border To Close 10 Jan

MB0111055589 Johannesburg SAPA in English
0543 GMT 1 Nov 89

[Text] Pretoria, Nov 1, SAPA—The Mata-Mata border post between South Africa and Namibia will be closed on January 10 next year, SABC [South African Broadcasting Corporation] radio news reports.

The head of Internal Parks of the National Parks Board, Mr Dirk Ackerman, said in Pretoria it had been decided in 1986 not to convert the access route to the Kalahari Gemsbok National Park into an international border post.

He said that problems with heavy traffic through an ecologically-sensitive region made it undesirable to make the route a national road.

Pik Botha Discusses De Klerk Ivory Coast Visit

MB3110150889 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1451 GMT 31 Oct 89

[Text] Pretoria Oct 31 SAPA—The main purpose of State President F.W. de Klerk's visit to the Ivory Coast in a month's time was the same as that on his previous visits to other African countries—to get to know African leaders on a personal basis; to inform them of the South African Government's plans internally; and to strengthen the principle that African leaders should solve the problems of Africa themselves.

This was said on Tuesday by the minister of foreign affairs, Mr Pik Botha.

Answering questions from journalists at the state guest house, he said he believed a ceasefire in the Angolan conflict was imminent—"both sides are on the point of a ceasefire".

But he stressed it had to be remembered President Mobutu Sese Seko of Zaire was the mediator—"and my government supports Mobutu".

Ex-Detainee Hammond Says 'Abducted' by Frelimo

MB3110153689 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1528 GMT 31 Oct 89

[Text] Johannesburg Oct 31 SAPA—The eight missionaries detained by Mozambican authorities early last week after they allegedly crossed into that country without permission were in fact abducted from Malawi, Frontline Fellowship Director Peter Hammond alleged on Tuesday. Back in South Africa after he and his colleagues were released on Monday, Mr Hammond told reporters at Jan Smuts Airport Mozambican Police had themselves suggested overzealousness on the part of the border commander who arrested them.

The same Frelimo [Mozambique Liberation Front] officer had, according to the police, been responsible for the shooting down of a Malawian aircraft in 1986, causing a number of civilian casualties.

Mr Hammond said he, South African missionary George Bezuidenhout and six Christian Emergency Relief Team [CERT] medical workers had been examining the refugee situation in the Domue area of Malawi last Tuesday [24 October].

"You must understand there's almost no signposts on those roads and there's no sign of where the border is. But we passed some buildings which had English writing on...the Malawi flag over them. We were definitely in Malawi."

Less than 50 metres on they had sighted a border post and the Frelimo flag, said Mr Hammond, and they realised they were on the wrong road.

He had suggested they turn around, but others in the group had thought this might seem unnecessarily suspicious.

"We therefore stopped a good fifteen metres from the checkpoint...and asked for directions."

"Chaos ensued," with none of the missionaries being able to speak Portuguese, the guards unable to speak English and the soldiers repeatedly cocking their rifles to intimidate the foreigners, said Mr Hammond.

"They started calming down when they saw the American passports (of the CERT workers). When they saw the South African passport of George Bezuidenhout they went hysterical.

"More guns were cocked, RPGs [Rocket-Propelled Grenades] were aimed at us...and they demanded that we walk over the border with them into Mozambique. We refused to do so...we said we had no permission."

In full view of an intimidation Malawi police contingent, according to Mr Hammond, about 50 Frelimo soldiers then forced the group across the border at gunpoint.

They had been taken to Ulongwe in Angonia Province where they were interrogated by police.

Four Soviet helicopter pilots had transported them to Tete where they were again interrogated, this time by the Mozambican secret police, and then to Maputo's Machava Prison where they were put in solitary confinement.

They were badly treated in Machava and the two women in the group were assaulted in their cells.

"We were in the solitary confinement cells singing...and trying to communicate through the bars 'til late yesterday when we were surprisingly released."

Mr Hammond said CERT had not operated in Africa before—although members had worked in Honduras,

Nicaragua, South East Asia and other trouble spots—which was perhaps why the American consul in Maputo had not heard of them before. "I have no doubt the American State Department knows about them."

Replying to a question about his alleged Renamo [Mozambique National Resistance] connections, the 29-year-old evangelist said he had never had any political links although he had preached and distributed Bibles to both Frelimo troops and to the rebels. "No mission can afford to have links with guerrilla groups and governments. We preach to people."

Mr Hammond conceded having had dealings with Renamo spokesman Tom Schaff but only some time ago when Mr Schaff had been with the Zimbabwe agricultural department in Mutare. Nobody had suspected his political connections.

Some South African newspapers received a lambasting at the airport conference. Mr Hammond said irresponsible journalism and blatant untruths could have resulted in lengthy imprisonment or worse for the missionaries.

Describing the situation in Mozambique, Mr Hammond said in the last hour of their flight to Tete in the dark, they could see fires burning all over the country.

"On one day on a previous trip we saw 16 fires...the whole country's burning down, and I just despair of the way they react to it. They blame Malawi and they blame foreign medical, humanitarian and relief workers to try and get out their own mess.

"We should be uniting to give as much access to Mozambique to missionary and humanitarian groups, to help them."

Police Head Denies Officers To Resign

*MB0111133789 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1332 GMT 1 Nov 89*

[Text] Pretoria Nov SAPA—Police Commissioner General H.G. "Hennie" de Wit on Wednesday dismissed reports that members of the police force were "presently threatening to resign because of the way in which gatherings are permitted".

He said in a statement telexed to SAPA:

"I wish to state emphatically that no such case has come to my notice or the notice of head office."

"There are currently several rumours in circulation and there is no doubt in my mind that many of these rumours are disseminated maliciously to place the SA [South African] Police in a bad light," the commissioner said in his statement.

"The SA Police is a disciplined force and it has been emphasized repeatedly that it is our duty to protect and serve the community.

"We will not be put off by rumours and malicious misrepresentations and will still perform our duty as set out in the creed of the SA Police," the general said.

The statement said:

"With reference to rumours that members of the SA Police are presently threatening to resign because of the way in which gatherings are permitted, I wish to state emphatically that no such case has come to my notice or the notice of head office."

Ministers Meet With Visitng EC Parliamentarians

*MB3110171589 Johannesburg Television Service
in Afrikaans 1600 GMT 31 Oct 89*

[Text] Three members of the European Parliament currently visiting South Africa have said it is clear that positive change is taking place in the country. The group is on a personal visit to South Africa, and it includes Mrs Hanja Maij-Weggen of the Netherlands, Mr Leo Tindemans of Belgium, and Prof Roberto Bindi of Italy.

The group will be leaving for Namibia on Sunday [5 November] to monitor the peace process in that country. They are all members of the Christian Democratic Party in the European Parliament.

The visitors held talks in Pretoria today with three members of the South African cabinet and discussed the latest developments in southern Africa. The South African delegation included Foreign Minister Pik Botha; Finance Minister Barend du Plessis; and Trade, Industry, and Tourism Minister Kent Durr.

After the talks Mr Botha said he had requested support for the principle of a so-called Marshall Plan for the development of southern Africa.

[Begin video recording in English] [Botha] The ten southern African states do have the resources. We have a great need of funds. It will be our purpose to work together and try to present to Europe a joint plan, a joint program of reconstruction and development, and I appealed to them that when the day comes, that they should support this idea because, after all, they have the funds and we have the resources.

[Maij-Weggen] We are prepared to work very close together with the southern African countries. Of course, we have some conditions. We hope that the system here will change, the apartheid system here will change, as soon as possible, and I have got a lot of information and signals that it will change in the near future. On the other hand, we also hope that the so-called Marxist ideas in some southern African countries will also change. [end recording]

Helen Suzman Decorated by UK's Queen Elizabeth*MB3110155189 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1429 GMT 31 Oct 89*

[Text] London Oct 31 SAPA—"Dame" Helen Suzman said at Buckingham Palace after Queen Elizabeth II invested her on Monday [30 October] with the title, Honorary Dame Commander of the British Empire [DBE], she had been worried she would trip and fall flat on her face during the ceremony.

All went well however and she quipped afterwards to photographers as she opened the flat black box to show them the DBE medals and ribbons that "I feel as if I'm at Wimbledon".

Although the veteran South African politician and human rights campaigner was one of nearly 140 recipients of various titles at the investiture, it was evident the queen knows very well who she is.

"She said she was delighted to make the award and asked if I had come over from South Africa especially. I said thank you very much and that, no, I had extended my stay here."

Mrs Suzman arrived in Britain a few weeks ago and among others, met Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher before travelling on to Canada. She returns to South Africa at the end of the week.

Mrs Suzman's investiture—her daughter and husband were in the audience—took place in the cavernous ballroom at the palace and lasted about 30 seconds, 10 seconds longer than the average of about 20 seconds for most of the other recipients of awards.

For the occasion she wore a deep blue and black dress, with small black hat and shoes to match, and a minimum of jewellery. Asked if she had felt nervous she said: "Yes, I was worried I would fall flat on my face in front of the queen. Luckily they put us through a rehearsal before to practice the courtesies." As the DBE is an honorary one because Mrs Suzman is not a British citizen, she will not be able to wear the medals at official functions, or be entitled to use the title "dame" before her name.

Nevertheless, she was clearly delighted at the honour bestowed on her.

Trade With Neighboring States Increases*MB0111103789 Johannesburg THE STAR in English
1 Nov 89 p 7*

[By Michael Chester]

[Text] No less than one third of all South African exports of manufactured goods are now flowing north to black neighbouring states in a drive to establish new "economic bridgeheads" in the rest of the continent.

The disclosure came from Mr Kent Durr, Minister of Trade and Industry and of Tourism, at the bi-annual conference of Executive Council of the Federated Chamber of Industries in Johannesburg yesterday.

"We must look at our neighbours with new eyes," he told business leaders. "We have often been told that South Africa's path to political acceptance by the outside world runs through Africa—and this may equally apply when it comes to economic bridgeheads."

The Department of Trade and Industry was now laying new stress on the importance of neighbouring countries as potential trade partners.

The statue of Cecil Rhodes at the tip of South Africa in Cape Town pointed northwards, with the inscription: "Your hinterland is there." The message carried even more force now.

"Africa is coming to terms with reality," said Mr Durr. "And we are part of that reality. Also, we are coming to new terms with Africa."

Nor did South Africa intend to try to leap-frog near neighbours such as the so-called Frontline States in longer term ambitions to tap more distant and more difficult markets.

The whole sub-continent of southern Africa was not regarded as a primary trade zone, with the potential to develop into a single market to the benefit of all nations in the region.

In turn, the zone could be turned into an export spring-board into markets all around the world.

Mr Durr emphasised that South Africa's aim was mutual benefit from inter-dependence.

Though South Africa had usually regarded an annual economic growth of around 5 percent as adequate, fresh studies by the Industrial Development Corporation showed the manufacturing sector needed a minimum sustained growth rate as high as 8 percent a year over the next decade.

"Part of the answer in the whole sub-region is for all to exchange adversarial postures for co-operative postures on economic matters," he said.

Finance Minister Announces New R2 Coin*MB0111100789 Johannesburg SAPA in English
0941 GMT 1 Nov 89*

[Text] Pretoria, Nov 1, SAPA—Assets worth R90.2 million [90.2 million rand] were being taken over from the state in the handing over of the SA [South African] Mint to the SA Reserve Bank, the minister of finance, Barend du Plessis, said on Wednesday.

In a ceremony in which he minted South Africa's first R2 coin as well as signing the official take-over documents

of the SA Mint going to the Reserve Bank, he said these assets consisted largely of machinery, equipment and base materials.

Mr du Plessis said the R2 coin would be legal tender from Wednesday.

More than 40 million had already been minted and a large proportion distributed to banks throughout South Africa. It was envisaged that about 60 million would be available before December 15, when the mint closed for the Christmas recess.

The South African National Council for the blind said in a statement on Wednesday it welcomed the introduction of the new R2 coin, which was the first in the intended series of nine which are to be phased in over the next two years.

"The design of the coins was tested on blind and partially-sighted people and their needs and recommendations were taken into account before the final decision was made," the council said.

31 Oct Press Review on Current Problems, Issues MB3110140789

[Editorial Report]

THE STAR

Political Change on Course—"The process of political change in South Africa is hearteningly still on course. In fact, it has been strengthened by the peaceful demonstration of solidarity given to freed ANC [African National Congress] prisoners at the Soccer City rally outside Soweto on Sunday [29 October]. The challenge now is to keep up the momentum," declares the Johannesburg **THE STAR** in English on 31 October in a page 22 editorial. "For the Government, that means making the next move." "For the Mass Democratic Movement and the banned and restricted organisations, it means ensuring that nothing upsets the applecart of change, even if it is their intention (as is understandable) to keep the pressure on the Government." "Now that 'normalisation' has begun, it is a stage the country should move through as quickly as possible. The negotiation stage is what South Africa is waiting for; the time when give-and-take can be demanded from all parties. Let it come."

THE CITIZEN

Government Caution Urged—"Whichever way we look at it, we cannot see what the ANC rally at Soccer City achieved except to give the ANC a platform from which to address its followers and to demonstrate that it no longer considers itself to be a banned organisation," states the Johannesburg **THE CITIZEN** in English on 31 October in a page 6 editorial. "Much is made of the fact that the rally was peaceful, but the organisers took great precautions to ensure there was no trouble. If Nelson Mandela is to be released, the government needs assurances that there will not be a renewal of unrest or any

violence at rallies he addresses." This rally "gave that assurance." Nevertheless, "the government should consider whether a 'liberation' force like the ANC can be granted unconditional freedom to stage huge rallies at which it openly promotes its aims and objectives and lays down conditions to the government." "We would prefer that the government did not run risks and did not react to events rather than determine them. It needs to be careful that it does not allow the ANC to capture the high ground and win the battle. It should not be for the ANC to determine what should be done but for the government to do so."

BUSINESS DAY

Expose ANC 'Conspiracy'—The 29 October ANC rally, "South Africa's version of the Prague Spring," "is laden with the burden of hope that gathers weight by the day. On the surface, things could hardly go better. The crowds were large and happy, leaders conciliatory, the police absent; but words of caution are not entirely churlish. Beneath the surface gaiety, the realities of South African politics begin to be illuminated. The theme of the gathering, if there was one, was the unity of purpose—if not a singleness of organisation—of the ANC, the SA [South African] Communist Party [CP], and the Mass Democratic Movement." "There is no daylight to be seen between them." "It is as well that these facts are allowed, at last, to emerge. For one thing, it demonstrates the futility, and indeed the counter-productive folly, of the policy of trying to eradicate a conspiratorial political movement by bannings and prohibitions. The best was to undermine any conspiracy is to expose it to the light, so that decent, ordinary people can see what they are dealing with. That is what is happening now."

CITY PRESS

ANC Leaders Must Inspire Nation—"Today eight prominent ANC members will address what promises to be the biggest political meeting in decades in this country," notes the Johannesburg **CITY PRESS** in English on 29 October in a page 10 editorial. "And we all want to hear how they hope to save this country. Particularly black South Africa." We hope they have made a collective decision based on available options. "They must give us the greatness of a vision of the future." "We believe this country should have a great future. We also believe these men will inspire this nation—particularly blacks—to take risks in order to improve, expand and create a new South Africa." They know that "destiny is not a matter of chance. But choice."

Soviet Offer Considered—"Is there more to what Soviet Deputy Foreign Minister Anatoliy Adamishin was telling us this week?" asks **CITY PRESS** in a second editorial on the same page. Adamishin said "his country was ready to help arrange negotiations between government and the ANC" and Pik Botha noted the "neutral tone" of the statement. "We believe there is never one right solution, but only partial solutions. Outsiders can help us look at the possibilities." However, "we also

point out that we appreciate the crucial input from foreigners. But the hard thinking must come from us."

Thatcher Deserves RSA Cabinet Post—"British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher should be given a cabinet post by the South African Government after her gallant performance in the Commonwealth conference in Kuala Lumpur last week. Never in the history of the National Party rule have they had such a strong ally in Mrs Thatcher," asserts Khulu Sibiyi in his "My Way" column on page 10. "A veteran politician like Mrs Thatcher should have known better than to put her neck on the block for a country like South Africa. It was a most unwise thing to do." Although she declared at the Commonwealth conference that she is "in step with the people of South Africa," "I think she missed her step." "Black South Africans are tired of Western countries who derive pleasure from paying lip service to our struggle. But as one activist once said: 'After the day of liberation we will remember all those who stood by us.' The United States Government under George Bush seems to be getting this message very fast."

CAPE TIMES

Reform Plans Encouraging—President de Klerk's recent assurances on economic reform "come as a necessary and logical sequel to advances in the political arena, auguring well for the increasingly exciting momentum of the new administration," states the Cape Town CAPE TIMES in English on 26 October in a page 8 editorial. "The road to Tuynhuys, however, is invariably paved with good intentions. That, of course, is not enough." "The president's success in meeting his new goals for the economy is quantifiable and this newspaper intends to carefully monitor his progress." "Economic and political reform as set out by the president complement each other well. If (and his party's track record dictates a big 'if') he can extend his evident resolve for progress into practical implementation, there is every prospect of a higher standard of living for all in a more peaceful country." "The alternative," "should not be an option worth considering."

Legalize ANC To Allow Real Negotiations—"Tut, tut, Mr Vlok! The warning in Bloemfontein that it is still an offence to promote the aims of the ANC is clearly out of touch with political reality. Although Mr Vlok was technically correct in terms of existing law, the reality is that the ANC flag has re-emerged," observes the CAPE TIMES in a second editorial on the same page. "Recent events have indeed quasi-legalised the ANC and the sooner it is unbanned, the better." "The government should be urgently concentrating on how to make ANC legal again—while the pursuit of violence remains illegal—considering how to lift the emergency and remove the gags of anti-apartheid leaders on the consolidated list. The priority is to allow greater freedom so that real negotiations and public debate can begin."

Media Regulations Not Needed—"The De Klerk government is considering relaxation of the press curbs. Yet

reports suggest, regrettably, that Pretoria hesitates to scrap them outright." "President de Klerk's advisers are on the wrong track if they are considering piecemeal relaxation in exchange for 'greater responsibility' on the part of the media," declares the CAPE TIMES on 27 October in a page 6 editorial. "To suggest a 'test period' with the press on its best behaviour is insulting. The sensible course is to abolish the media regulations outright. And if Pretoria wants the world to believe that this country has a free press in the Western tradition, President de Klerk should also scrap the restrictive provision of the Prison Act and the Police Act, which prevent exposure of abuses." "If President de Klerk needs public support for dramatic changes, the press must be free to tell people what is going on."

NATAL WITNESS

De Klerk's First Steps Encouraging—"In the first six weeks of his presidency, F.W. de Klerk has achieved a significant transformation of the dynamics of South Africa's political life. Unlike his predecessors he has, it seems, recognised that popular nationalistic forces have a role to play in the structuring of a future constitution and must be allowed to play it," observes the Durban NATAL WITNESS in English on 23 October in a page 8 editorial. His first steps "encourage a belief that his new declaration of his government's readiness for conciliation with the ANC could bear real fruit. Among the weekend's proposals, the suggestion that representative black negotiators should be elected by popular vote holds the promise that genuine political leaders could emerge in place of vociferous spokesmen who are better qualified for the pulpit than the political platform. But these are first steps only." "The onus of coming to grips with those actualities" on which the future has to be structured still lies with him.

TRANSVALER

CP Can Play Role—"Dr A.P. Treurnicht's vision of a gathering of conservative South Africans who can motivate one another will gain little interest outside those circles," notes the Johannesburg TRANSVALER in Afrikaans on 26 October in a page 8 editorial. "They have long been considered irrelevant—and it is generally accepted that they have no role in bringing about the new South Africa. But they can nevertheless play a role—on condition that they distance themselves from the kind of thinking that has become their hallmark. Their participation in the future constitutional debate will contribute toward a greater perspective and greater realism. But then they must participate. And before that can happen, they must leave behind their kind of reasoning which oversimplifies the South African situation into a vision of conflict between black and white."

ANC Must Stop Violence—A second editorial on the same page says: "It was to be expected that certain groups, which need no introduction, would like to believe that it was just a matter of time before the ANC steps in and begins its activities here." "Of course, that is

far from the truth, as Minister Adriaan Vlok emphasized this past week. The government's view is a remains that the ANC cannot qualify as a negotiator unless it fore-swears the violence option. This the ANC has not done. For the sake of calm in the future, and to ensure that no new misunderstandings arise, the ANC and its allies here should not read the wrong signals into the state president's policy statements and actions."

BEELD

ANC Rally Possibly 'Great Stride'—The Johannesburg BEELD in Afrikaans of 30 October states in a page 14 editorial: "Yesterday's meeting in honor of the seven released ANC leaders represents a tiny step in the debate on questions about the future, but can eventually mean a great stride on the road to democracy. The demands before serious negotiations on the future remain the same, group rights were once again rejected, and few details were given on the future for which we should strive. Much more significant was the event itself and the manner in which the crowds behaved. For many years, the fear has existed that a gathering of ANC leaders like that of yesterday would lead to disorder and bloodshed. That did not happen." "As with the urban protests, the government decided, despite skepticism among whites, to take the risk of the mass gathering. The government was proved right, and should be given recognition for it."

U.S. Consternation 'Of Its Own Doing'—In a second editorial on the same page, BEELD says: "The latest U.S. 'revelation' about Israel's alleged involvement in the development of a nuclear missile for South Africa has apparently caused more consternation overseas than here at home." "South Africa has never confirmed or denied the 'revelations'. That would simply not be in the national interest." "One has little sympathy for the U.S. concern over the spread of ballistic missile technology. That country should rather ask itself what role it played in South Africa's isolation, which was intended as punishment but ironically made South Africa self-sufficient in weapons. What does the U.S. expect? That South Africa apologize for its ability to sail around the arms boycott? Uncertainty about a country's nuclear power is just as effective as the weapon itself. We grant the outside world its discomfort. It is, after all, of its own doing."

DIE BURGER

CP Homeland—"Opportunities come and go, but still (CP leader) Dr Andries Treurnicht has not told voters where the white homeland will be," notes the Cape Town DIE BURGER in Afrikaans on 26 October in a page 22 editorial. "Whatever the motive for Dr Treurnicht and his lieutenants' reticence, they will not be able to postpone the moment of truth indefinitely. When the Great Indaba arrives, the CP will have to make its suggestions."

New Police Image—DIE BURGER observes in a 27 October editorial on page 28: "In the authorities' search for a new dispensation for South Africa, it is sensible that

the police maintain efforts not to fall out of step." "In practice, this means that policemen of color cannot be expected to enforce legislation which they consider discriminatory and hurtful. It alienates them from their own people."

CP Makes 'Reckless Threat'—In another editorial on the same page, DIE BURGER asserts: "The CP, the official opposition, made a reckless threat at its recent congress." "With highly charged references to bloodletting and calls on the nation to prepare itself for the struggle, (deputy leader) Dr Ferdie Hartzenberg contributes to the conflict in a country where others are trying so hard to defuse it." "Hasn't there been enough loss of life and damage to property and human relations in this country?"

DIE REPUBLIKEIN

DTA 'Genuine' National Movement—"The election candidates list makes interesting reading," notes the Windhoek DIE REPUBLIKEIN in Afrikaans on 26 October in a page 8 editorial. "In the case of SWAPO [South-West African People's Organization] an attempt has been made at ethnic 'justification'. It has tried to demonstrate a 'religious presence'. It is clear from the list which clerics have been political figures all these years." "The Action Christian National's list of 72 is pure white." "The Democratic Turnhalle Alliance [DTA] list follows tradition. All its member parties are represented. The DTA's list confirms the fact that the alliance is the only genuine national movement in Namibia. It is an organization of the people for the people. Incidentally, the DTA has created exceptional room for female representation."

Two-Thirds Majority Agreement Important—"A simple matter has developed into an enormous problem between the administrator general and the UN special representative," comments DIE REPUBLIKEIN on 27 October in a page 4 editorial. "We are referring to the inclusion of principles agreed to in 1982 by concerned parties. These principles would have formed the basis of the constituent assembly. One of the principles demands that the constitution be adopted by a two-thirds majority." "We have repeatedly indicated that it is most important for the constitution to be accepted by the largest section of the population and not the smallest." "If all parties abide by these principles, why shouldn't they be included in the election proclamation?" "There is no question of compulsion, as all the parties have accepted the principles."

1 Nov Press Review

MB0111094789

[Editorial Report]

THE CITIZEN

RSA Relies on Thatcher's Sanctions Opposition—The page 6 editorial in Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English on 1 November says British Prime Minister

Margaret Thatcher is in the "dogbox" because "her Chancellor of the Exchequer, Mr Nigel Lawson, resigned because she refused to sack her economic adviser, Sir Alan Walters, who had been giving her advice that ran counter to Mr Lawson's." Although some of the criticism of Mrs Thatcher "could be justified" THE CITIZEN believes "anything she has or has not done in the Lawson affair deserves her head." The "worst thing" would be if Thatcher had to "quit the Prime Ministership, for we rely a great deal on her personal opposition to sanctions." "Despite her criticisms, and pressures that not all of us willingly accept, she is a friend—perhaps the best friend we have, or are likely to have, among overseas leaders."

THE STAR

Manipulation of Law Affects Courts' Reputation—
"There must be some justification for the Government to try to pretend that the protest it permits today is well within the law it employed yesterday to stop just that kind of protest," declares Johannesburg THE STAR in English on 1 November in a page 18 editorial. "After all, it is self-evident that a lid could not be clamped on seething tension indefinitely." THE STAR refers to the political rally at the Soccer City stadium, which was "legal because permission had been given for it to be held," and warns: "When politicians set themselves to manipulate the law to their own advantage, no matter how admirable their motives, they bring the very structure of the legal system into contempt." "If the laws are unjust, then they must be removed; not merely ignored,

as if they might be needed again tomorrow. Ultimately at stake is the reputation of the courts. The law must apply to all, at all times, or forfeit the respect it should command. One man's crime cannot be another man's privilege."

BUSINESS DAY

Economic 'Structural Flaws'—"By now just about everyone is convinced that the De Klerk administration and the new Governor of the Reserve Bank are determined to remedy the structural flaws of the South African economy," affirms Johannesburg BUSINESS DAY in English on 1 November in a page 12 editorial. "The ills are interconnected and, like the hydra-headed monster, hard to extirpate except by concerted, and co-ordinated, action of uncompromising severity." According to a United Building Society study, "the obvious cure is to raise the Bank rate another three points to eliminate real interest differentials between SA and its main trading partners. Will the De Klerk-Du Plessis-Stals troika risk such a thing?"

De Klerk Plays 'Significant' Role in African Continent—
A second editorial on the same page observes that "African states are beginning to acknowledge the part South Africa has to play in the economic development of the sub-continent and the promotion of regional peace." "As long as South Africa ensures it cannot be held responsible for conflicts in neighbouring states, and therefore blamed if others' peace plans fail, President de Klerk could find himself playing an increasingly significant role in the search for solutions on the continent."

Angola

Correspondent Views Ivorian Talks on Peace

MB3110164489 London BBC World Service in English
1515 GMT 31 Oct 89

[From the "Focus on Africa" program]

[Text] The only official development to come out of yesterday's summit in Ivory Coast, called to discuss the Angolan peace process, is that South Africa's President de Klerk will visit President Houphouet-Boigny next month. The summit brought together Presidents Kaunda, Bongo, and Pinto da Costa at the Ivorian leader's hometown, Yamoussoukro.

With the breakdown of the Gbadolite peace process started in June but now in ruins, the summit may have been one of the last chances of getting UNITA [National Union for the Total Independence of Angola] rebel leader Jonas Savimbi back to the negotiating table. Elizabeth Blunt was in Yamoussoukro for the summit. Ofeibea [not further identified] asked her what the presidents had to say for themselves when the meeting ended:

[Begin recording] [Blunt] Well, when they talked to journalists afterward, the four presidents were fairly cagey about what they had actually said in their discussions, but the delegations that I have spoken to since were all saying that they were pleased, that they felt they had done what they had come to do, which was to get President Houphouet-Boigny basically on their side, because he can be a great asset to something like this Angolan peace process, if he uses his influence. But if he is not happy and if he uses his influence the other way, he has got quite considerable powers to spoil the peace process, particularly because of his control over UNITA. They rather feel that he holds the key to whether Savimbi stops fighting, whether he talks, whether he behaves discreetly, whether he compromises, or whether—if President Houphouet-Boigny takes the brakes off, as it were—he goes back into the bush, keeps on fighting, talks to everybody all over the place, makes indiscreet statements, and it is really very unhelpful.

[Ofeibea] Did any of the leaders say what might be happening next in the way of talks?

[Blunt] Yes, the next step is a meeting of what they call the group of eight. This was the group which originally arranged the Gbadolite summit, although that grew much larger. Their next meeting is scheduled to be in Gabon with President Bongo as the host, and now I think they feel that they have more or less cleared the way. The only thing they still have to, I think, is to consult President Mobutu, who is being regarded as the main mediator in this.

[Ofeibea] What is the next move as regards Mobutu? He was absent from these meetings. When will he be going to start playing in the negotiating game again?

[Blunt] Well, the relationship of all this to President Mobutu is very interesting and slightly mysterious. There were rumors going round before the meeting here that President Mobutu would come. This was being denied by the Ivorians and yet somebody told Ivorian protocol to put up Zairian flags together with the flags of Zambia, Sao Tome, Gabon, and the Ivory Coast. There they were, flying alongside the others, and yet Mobutu didn't turn up. No Zairian delegate turned up. However, I gather from the Zambian delegation that they were planning to stop over in Kinshasa on their way home, presumably to report on what has been going on, to keep President Mobutu informed. He is coming for a lot of criticism about the way he has handled these negotiations, about taking too much on himself. But when the presidents were asked last night whether he was still the main mediator, President Kaunda said yes. He was designated as the mediator. That had not changed.

[Ofeibea] Some people might be wondering just how long this process of talking can go on when in fact these two sides directly fighting never attend these meetings.

[Blunt] Well, they may attend the next meeting in Gabon. This was one of the questions that was put to President Bongo, and he said more or less: Well, we will carry on talking until we have got things sorted out. As you see, things are not sorted out. He went to explain that everything is greatly complicated in the case of Angola by the involvement of outsiders. He said if it was just about Africa, they could have found a solution by now. But this involves South Africa. It involves the Soviet Union. It involves Cuba. It involves the United States. That all has to be taken into account, and that complicates matters enormously. [end recording]

Ministers Meet European Parliamentarians 31 Oct

MB0111073689 Luanda Domestic Service
in Portuguese 0600 GMT 1 Nov 89

[Text] The European Parliament delegation led by Socialist Deputy (Barbara Schoeman) yesterday met with Justice Minister Franca van Duynem. After the meeting, the delegation was briefed on southern Africa's political developments, particularly in Angola, since the signing of the New York accords.

The delegation also met yesterday with Finance Minister Teixeira de Matos, with whom it discussed financial cooperation under the terms of the Economic and Financial Rehabilitation program, SEF, and the admission of Angola to the IMF.

The European Parliament delegation arrived in Luanda 30 October. Today they will travel to Benguela Province to meet local officials.

Mozambique**'Bandits' Reportedly Kill 20 Civilians 31 Oct***MB0111124589 Maputo Domestic Service
in Portuguese 1030 GMT 1 Nov 89*

[Text] Yesterday another act of terrorism was carried out by the armed bandits at the Chonguene administrative post, 18 kms from the Gaza provincial capital. The bandits killed 20 defenseless people and wounded 11 others, including 8 who are in serious condition.

According to the survivors, who are presently receiving treatment at Xai-Xai provincial hospital, the gangsters came from (Guambene), a zone between Gaza and Inhambane Provinces and headed toward the Gaza provincial capital. On their way they abducted civilians from the different parts of Manjacaze District, particularly in (Ncatine) and (Xinzavane). Afterward, they killed civilians in Chonguene using bladed weapons. One of the survivors, Lucia Filipe Malate, whose husband died in the massacre, told Radio Mozambique that the bandits had told them that they were going to be killed because the people refuse to give power to the bandits.

Namibia**Pienaar Confirms Koevoet Unit Disbanded 30 Oct***MB3110162389 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1612 GMT 31 Oct 89*

[Text] Windhoek Oct 31 SAPA—Administrator-General Louis Pienaar on Tuesday confirmed that all former members of the Koevoet counter-insurgency unit had been fully demobilised by Monday [30 October].

A statement issued by an administration spokesman, Mr Gerhard Roux, read: "It will be recalled that the members of the counter-insurgency unit which had previously served in Ovamboland were demobilised at the end of September following renewed assurances from the (UN) special representative (Mr Martti Ahtisaari) and the (UN) secretary-general concerning the security of the country.

"The situation in the north since then has been such as to enable the administrator-general to complete the demobilisation of all ex-Koevoet members in the police force.

"As before, the latest exercise was carried out under the supervision of UNTAG [UN Transition Assistance Group] monitors who have declared that it was done to their satisfaction."

Responding to comments by an UNTAG spokesman, Mr Fred Eckhard, that the re-recruitment of demobilised Koevoet members into the SWA [South-West Africa] Police "presumably" constituted a breach of the spirit of the UN settlement plan, Mr Roux said Resolution 435 only referred to the counter-insurgency unit as such, making no mention of its individual members.

Individual members of SWAPO's [South-West African People's Organization] PLAN [People's Liberation Army of Namibia] forces could also, as civilian Namibians, apply for training as police officers and three of them had in fact done so already, Mr Roux said.

They were being screened like all other applicants.

"The question is, can Namibia afford in independence forever to penalise an ex-Koevoet, ex-SWATF [South-West African Territory Force] or ex-PLAN member and debar him from serving his country in a responsible way just because he happened to be involved in the war situation for a couple of years," Mr Roux said.

Mr Roux said he had strict instructions to make "no comment at all" about negotiations around the constituent assembly proclamation, which will establish the assembly to be elected next week.

Referring to reports that the SWA Police have been arming whites in various parts of the country, Mr Roux said the only people who had been issued with arms were police reservists.

He refused to say how many people had been armed or how many civilians were licenced to carry weapons, adding that this information was regarded as classified by the commissioner of police.

Pienaar Denies 'Disinformation' Claims*MB2210133089 Johannesburg SUNDAY STAR
in English 22 Oct 89 p 2*

[By Patrick Bulger and Sarah Sussens]

[Text] Claims that a South African-backed disinformation campaign is being conducted against SWAPO [South-West African People's Organization] and the United Nations observer team in Namibia were made in Windhoek and London this week.

In London self-confessed African National Congress spy Mrs Sue Dobson said she was part of a Bureau for Information unit which had been briefed to blacken the image of SWAPO and the UN team, UNTAG [UN Transition Assistance Group].

Her allegations were backed by Mr Fred Eckhard, a UN spokesman in Namibia, who told a press conference: "It comes as no surprise to us that South Africa is involved in a covert operation involving South African military personnel aimed at discrediting UNTAG and SWAPO.

"It is something we have suspected for a long time."

Mr Eckhard's statement has strained the already tense relations between UNTAG and the office of Administrator-General [AG] Louis Pienaar.

Mrs Dobson abandoned her Bureau for Information post in Windhoek a fortnight ago and fled to London, where she claimed she was part of a high-level covert operation based in Mr Pienaar's office.

Mr Pienaar has also denied the allegation.

"I give an absolute assurance that no covert activities of any nature have been or are being conducted by any branch of my administration, including the communication component," he said.

Mr Dave Venter, the bureau's most senior official in Windhoek, confirmed that all seven people named by Mrs Dobson worked in the AG's office as part of a special communications unit, but denied allegations of a covert operation.

He said the official had been seconded from South Africa at the request of the AG to provide a professional communications service in the runup to next month's elections.

"Mrs Dobson's allegations are all without substance," he said.

He said the communications unit comprised Bureau for Information journalists, an SA [South African] Department of Foreign Affairs official, a four-man team whose job it was to set up media-conference centres in Windhoek and Oshakati, and two men from the South African Defence Force whose task it was to provide the AG with daily security reports.

Namibia Peace Plan [NPP] 435, a group monitoring the transition towards independence, said in a recently-released study on the SWA [South-West Africa] Broadcasting Corporation there had been an "alarming increase" in anti-SWAPO reports.

"There has been a marked increase in negative publicity for both UNTAG and SWAPO in SWABC [South-West African Broadcasting Corporation] broadcasts from about three weeks ago, when the 'propaganda team' arrived in Windhoek," NPP 435 director Nahum Gorelic said.

Journalists covering the independence process said there had been a rash of disinformation stories in anti-SWAPO publications, and that these could only have emanated from well-placed inside sources.

Examples of these stories include:

- An allegation, backed up by detailed bills of lading, that UNTAG had imported enough weaponry to turn Namibia into a "powderkeg;"
- A claim that certain Kenyan members of the UNTAG force were in fact local Ovambos.
- A claim that a diary of a Kenyan UNTAG member made certain allegations about fellow UNTAG members;
- A claim that condoms being imported for UNTAG members were manufactured in the SWAPO colours of green, red and blue;
- An allegation that SWAPO official Anton Lubowski had been killed on orders from the SWAPO hierarchy.

"There is definitely a disinformation campaign being conducted at the moment," one journalist said.

He said anti-SWAPO publications seemed to obtain a lot of information from inside sources.

Susan Dobson has named the people she alleges were involved with her on a special high-level covert operation staged by the South African Government to sabotage the Namibian peace process, writes Garner Thomson of the Sun-Star's Foreign Service.

And she has outlined in detail the activities she and her journalist colleague were expected to carry out.

She said in London this weekend: "The briefing I specifically received was to use my contacts in the South-West African Police to do an image-building job for them, to show how Koevoet had been integrated into normal, peaceful duties."

The other aims of the contingent, she says, included "promoting South Africa's image as a peace-maker in the independence process, to exploit allegations of divisions within the SWAPO leadership, and to promote the idea that there was power struggle within SWAPO and that Anton Lubowski had been assassinated by elements within SWAPO because he had become superfluous and an embarrassment to SWAPO as more of a 'Nujoma man' than the so-called militants of SWAPO."

Smear campaigns on specific United Nations personnel were also part of their brief, she alleged, and they were "to promote parties other than SWAPO specifically the DTA [Democratic Turnhalle Alliance], and to try and influence Martti Ahtisaari to say that free and fair elections had in fact taken place when they hadn't, that he was satisfied with the actions of the Administrator-General, with registration and with South Africa's role. We were also to try and create examples of how UNTAG was favouring SWAPO.

"As one of the two journalists in the contingent, I would have access to National Intelligence and Military Intelligence reports which would in turn be fed through to sympathetic journalists in the South African press."

Mrs Dobson added: "We were there with the full knowledge and support of the Administrator-General and received accreditation from his office. A lot of emphasis was placed on establishing contacts and influencing people, and for this purpose we were given an entertainment allowance of R100,000."

The ANC [African National Congress] was fully informed about her activities during this period.

Expanding on the make-up of the special contingent, she named her counterparts as:

- Colonel Con van Rensburg.
- Botha Marais (both "predominantly" Military Intelligence).
- Dave Venter (Bureau for Information)
- Karel Breedt (ex-BOSS [Bureau of State Security])
- Rob Smith (National Intelligence), and
- Mariene Kromberg (journalist).

She added that Mr Dave Steward, head of the Bureau for Information, was also "heavily involved" in the planning of the operation.

DIE REPUBLIKEIN Reporter Dies in Shooting

*MB2810073689 Johannesburg SAPA in English
0735 GMT 28 Oct 89*

[Text] Windhoek Oct 27 SAPA—Windhoek journalist Andre de Bruyn was killed in a shooting accident at Oshakati in Ovambo on Friday [27 October] night, SWABC [South-West African Broadcasting Corporation] radio news reported on Saturday.

The shooting occurred at about 10pm on Friday.

Mr de Bruyn, 41, a senior member of the editorial staff of Windhoek Afrikaans daily, DIE REPUBLIKEIN, is survived by four children.

Police spokesman, w/o [Warrant Officer] Leon Rust, said a shotgun appeared to have been involved and police were collecting information on the incident.

Zambia

Kaunda Returns From Ivory Coast 31 Oct

*MB3110193589 Lusaka Domestic Service in English
1800 GMT 31 Oct 89*

[Text] President Kaunda arrived back home this evening from Ivory Coast, where he had gone to attend a 1-day summit of the future of Angola. The meeting was hosted by Ivorian President Felix Houphouet-Boigny.

Zimbabwe

Mugabe Working To Complete ZANU-ZAPU Merger

*MB2910124489 Johannesburg International Service
in English 1100 GMT 29 Oct 89*

[Text] It is reported from Harare that President Robert Mugabe of Zimbabwe has begun a series of conferences that should end with a merger between the ruling ZANU-PF [Zimbabwe African National Union-Patriotic Front] and its ZAPU [Zimbabwe African People's Union] allies.

President Mugabe's Zimbabwe African National Union and the Zimbabwe African People's Union signed a unity agreement in December 1977, and a national congress planned for December should complete the merger.

Speaking in Harare at the first of the conferences, President Mugabe called on delegates to elect a leadership that reflected unity and not a leadership based on individualism, greed and regionalism.

The report said his comments were seen as referring to difficulties between ZANU-PF and ZAPU militants that had emerged recently over the structure of the future party, which would take its name from the dominant party ZAPU or ZANU.

At the opening of the Harare congress, a ZANU-PF spokesman said the new party would have 1.5 million members. ZANU-PF and ZAPU have not revealed their respective membership figures among Zimbabwe's more than 9 million population.

The precise date of December's national congress had still to be determined.

House of Assembly Adjourns; No Ministers Present

*MB3110162889 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1605 GMT 31 Oct 89*

[Text] Harare October 31 SAPA—The Zimbabwean House of Assembly, meeting on Tuesday for the first time in almost two months, adjourned early because no ministers were present, ZIANA national news agency reports.

Out of 10 items on the order paper only one, a motion on a committee report, was debated.

The deputy minister of political affairs, Mr J van Maseko, asked for an adjournment after the sixth item on the order paper, like others before it, had to be postponed until Wednesday [1 November] because of the absence of the relevant minister.

Non-constituency MP [member of Parliament] Mr Bill Irvine complained that some of the ministers due to respond to items on the order paper, some of them outstanding since the last session, had not turned up.

Mr Irvine asked for an assurance from the leader of the House, Mr Emmerson Mnangwagwa, who had just walked in, that his colleagues would play their role and reply to backbenchers' questions in time.

Ghana

40 Electoral Commissioners Leave for Namibia Duty

AB2910084489 Accra Domestic Service in English
0700 GMT 29 Oct 89

[Text] Forty electoral officers from the National Commission for Democracy have flown to Windhoek, Namibia to assist in the country's independence process. The group, made up of 36 men and 4 women, will serve under the United Nations Transitional Assistance Group, which is monitoring Namibia's transition to independence. The officers will join other selected countries invited by the United Nations to ensure fair elections which will take place on November 7.

Addressing the officers before their departure, the member secretary of the commission, Mr E.A. Hagan, reminded them of their role as officials of the United Nations and urged them to abide by the registration and election rules. He said they are going as the country's ambassadors and are expected to exhibit a conduct that will uphold Ghana's dignity. The chief electoral officer and leader of the contingent, Mr Kwame Damoah Agyeman, said all officials are equal to the task, and with their long experience with the electoral process, they would excel in Namibia.

At the airport to see them off were Dr E.A. Ayobi-Acquah, a member of the commission, and other officials of the commission.

Joint Friendship Society With USSR Signs Accord

AB2710083589 Accra Domestic Service in English
1800 GMT 26 Oct 89

[Text] The Ghana-Soviet Friendship Society and the Union of Soviet Societies for Friendship yesterday signed a cultural agreement in Accra. Under the agreement, the Ghana-Soviet Friendship Society will benefit from 78 scholarships from the Soviet Government. [Words indistinct] from the two societies and also for the exchange of artists, professionals of various qualifications, and the mounting of exhibitions in the two countries. The president of the Ghana-Soviet Friendship Society, Mr Johnny Hanson, and the deputy chairman of the Building of Soviet Societies for Friendship and cultural relations with foreign countries, Mr Petrikov Kuchekov, signed for the organizations.

In an address, Mr Johnny Hanson said through the hard work of the Ghana-Soviet Friendship Society, relations between Ghana and the Soviet Union had improved tremendously. Mr Kuchekov, on his part, said evidence of Ghana-Soviet cooperation can be seen in the social, cultural, and political life of the country. He commended the efforts of the Ghana-Soviet Friendship society in promoting activities of the Soviet cultural center and hoped relation between the two countries would continue to grow.

Cooperation Pact Signed by USSR Deputy Minister

AB2810082889 Accra Domestic Service in English
0700 GMT 28 Oct 89

[Text] The first session of the Ghana-Soviet Joint Commission for Cooperation has ended in Accra with the signing of a new agreement to extend trade between them. The session also approved proposals presented by Ghana's delegation. Consequently, the Tamale Airport is to be extended, rehabilitated, and upgraded. Other projects lined up for implementation are the expansion of the Tema Technical Institute, including the construction of a new foundry workshop and the establishment of two new technical institutes in Wa and at Amankwakrom in the Afram Plains.

The deputy secretary for finance and economic planning, Mr Emissah-Arthur, who led Ghana's delegation, described the session as very successful. He said the decisions would have a positive impact on the participation of the private sector in the two countries.

The leader of the Soviet side, Mr K.Ye. Fomichenko, who is deputy minister of foreign economic relations, thanked the PNDC [Provisional National Defense Council] and the people of Ghana for the warm hospitality accorded his delegation. He hoped the implementation of the agreement would enable Ghanaian manufacturers to take advantage of the new wind of openness in the Soviet Union.

The second session of the commission will be held in Moscow.

Liberia

Taiwan To Take Over PRC Projects in Country

AB2610101889 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English
2000 GMT 25 Oct 89

[Text] The Government of the Republic of China or Taiwan is to take over projects abandoned by the People's Republic of China following suspension of diplomatic relations between Liberia and communist China. A Foreign Ministry release said the projects include the new Health Ministry in Congo Town; the management team of the SKD [Samuel Kanyon Doe] Sports Complex; the medical team of the government hospital in Tubmanburg; and Chinese cultural program for Liberian students. The release said the president of the physical education college of the Republic of China, Dr (Thieu Sing), is presently in the country to assess facilities at the SKD Sports Complex in Paynesville.

Government To Repay PRC Loans

AB2710191589 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English
1709 GMT 26 Oct 89

[Text] The Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Monrovia says the loans obtained from the People's Republic of China to fund projects in Liberia will be repaid in keeping with

the terms and conditions of the agreements. According to a Foreign Ministry release, the projects include the new Health Ministry complex in Congotown, the management team of the SKD [Samuel Kanyon Doe] Sports Complex, the medical team of the government hospital in Chapmanburg, and the Chinese Scholarship Program for Liberian students.

The release also said the government of the Republic of China or Taiwan, is to take over these projects abandoned by the People's Republic of China. The abandonment of these projects follows the suspension of diplomatic relations between Liberia and communist China due to Liberia's decision to reestablish diplomatic relations with the Republic of China or Taiwan.

Vice President Returns From Taipei, Comments

*AB2810095989 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English
2000 GMT 28 Oct 89*

[Text] Vice President Harry Moniba on Wednesday [25 October] said that Liberia will continue to foster friendly ties with all nations of the world regardless of their political system. He said Liberia as a sovereign nation has the right to decide who her friends are and maintained that the decision by Liberia to reestablish diplomatic relations with the Republic of China was in the best interest of the nation.

Dr Moniba made the statement last evening [as heard] at the Roberts International Airport in Margibi County upon arrival from Taipei, the Republic of China, at the head of a top-level Liberian delegation. He said the resumption of diplomatic ties between the two countries will bring about mutual benefits to the two governments and will also strengthen bilateral cooperation between them. Dr Moniba told journalists upon arrival that his trip was successful but did not elaborate. He disclosed that following his trip to Taipei, he went over to West Germany for medical check-up. Dr Moniba was met on arrival by Foreign Minister J. Rudolph Johnson and Deputy House Speaker Alfred Curtis.

Mali

Information Minister Meets Palestinian Envoy

*AB2610213889 Bamako Domestic Service in French
1500 GMT 26 Oct 89*

[Text] His Excellency (Abu Rafa), Palestinian ambassador and dean of the Diplomatic Corps in Mali, visited Niamanto Diarra, the minister of information and telecommunications, this morning. After greeting and congratulating the minister, the Palestinian diplomat thanked his host for the constant support of the Malian press for Palestine. He reaffirmed the Palestinian people's determination to continue the fight, namely through the Intifada, which is the expression of every Palestinian in the face of Israeli soldiers' murders and mutilations. The ambassador stressed that the occupiers have put a ban on information about what is happening

in the occupied zones. He recalled that the Palestinian people, who are in favor of dialogue, propose the organization of an international peace conference on the Middle East with the PLO as the sole representative of the Palestinian people.

For his part, the minister of information and telecommunications expressed his confidence in the ineluctable victory of the Palestinian people. For Mali, Niamanto Diarra said, the sole representative of the Palestinian people is the PLO. The Malian people's support for the Palestinian cause is constantly reaffirmed by General Moussa Traore, secretary general of the party and president of the Republic, the minister said. He reassured the Palestinian ambassador of the Malian media's readiness to support Palestine on the occasion of the activities marking the commemoration of the Palestinian revolution, which will take place on 15 November 1989. Amadou Thiam, audiovisual media adviser, was present at the audience.

Nigeria

Ferry Sinks in Akwa Ibom; 200 Feared Drowned

*AB3110192789 London BBC World Service in English
1709 GMT 31 Oct 89*

[Text] Hundreds of Nigerians are (?thought) to have drowned this weekend in the sinking of a ferry boat off the coast of Ibom State. From Lagos Elizabeth Obadine telexed this report.

[Begin studio announcer recording] According to reports reaching Lagos, the dead are mostly traders from villages along the western bank of the Cross River estuary. They set off on Saturday [28 October] evening carrying plantain, garri, and petrol which they intended trading for fish at (Upenekan), a coastal village close to the Cameroon boarder. At 10 pm, about 2 hours into their journey, the ferry broke up beneath them. There were more than 200 people on the boat. Only three survived, two men and a woman believed to be the boat's owner. One of the survivors, Mr Udo Opiong, said that the boat split into two pieces because of heavy overloading. Because it was dark, no one at first knew about the tragedy, and rescuers drawn from 10 villages affected by the disaster had to wait until Sunday [29 October] morning to begin the search for survivors. By yesterday afternoon, 87 bodies had been recovered. They have been promptly buried according to local custom. The husband of one of the victims said that his wife had had a premonition of disaster but had forced herself to take the trip because they were short of essential household provisions.

Ferry services provide welcome relief for hard-pressed commuters in many parts of Nigeria. However, they are poorly regulated and invariably overcrowded. Local newspapers here some months ago drew the attention of the Lagos state travelers on boats built to carry only 400.

Commuters describe the rush-hour services as disasters waiting to happen. [end recording]

Chief of General Staff Returns From Malaysia

*AB2610182389 Lagos Domestic Service in English
1500 GMT 26 Oct 89*

[Text] The chief of General Staff, Vice Admiral Augustus Aikhomu, returned to Lagos today from Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, where he represented Nigeria at the Commonwealth summit. In a brief interview with airport correspondents, Vice Admiral Aikhomu described the election of Mr Emeka Anyaoku as Commonwealth secretary general as an honor to Nigeria and Africa as a whole. He

said the election shows that Nigeria has become a strong force to be reckoned with in the international arena. Vice Admiral Aikhomu expressed the hope that the election of Chief Anyaoku will further help to promote South-South dialogue.

On sanctions against apartheid South Africa, the chief of General Staff described as unfortunate the statement credited to the British prime minister, Mrs Margaret Thatcher, that mandatory sanctions against the Pretoria regime would not achieve the desired results. He said the statement was seen in bad faith by other members of the Commonwealth.

END OF

FICHE

DATE FILMED

1 Nov 1989

